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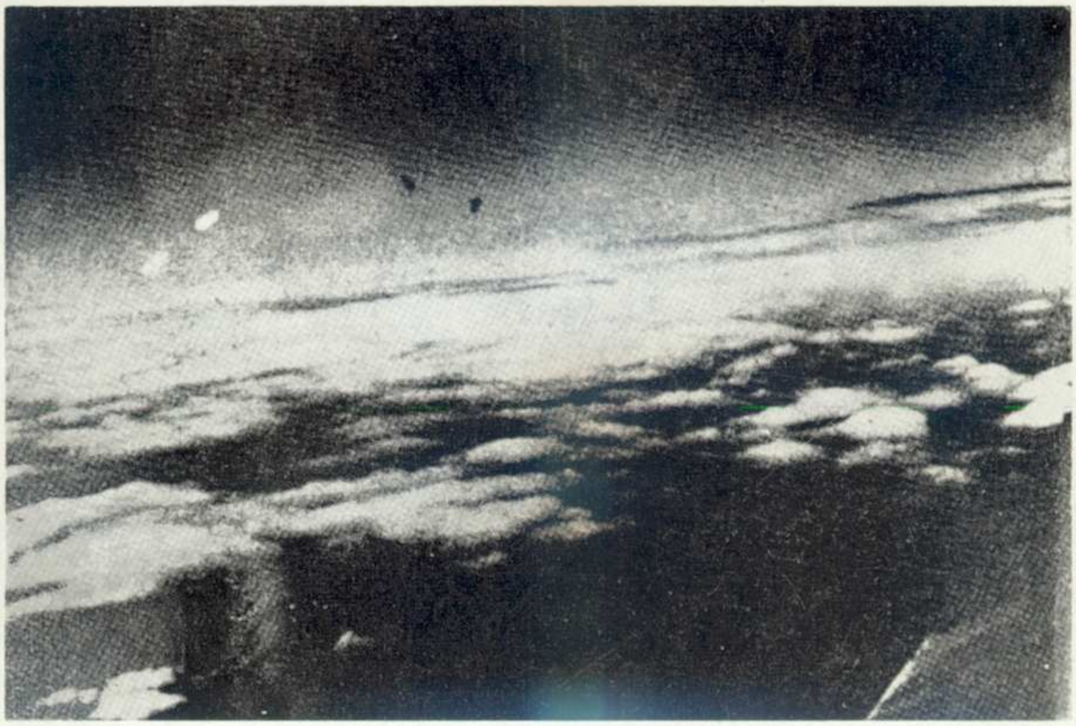

THE LIFJELL FILM

The Arctic film of 1954 said to be a hoax

See Page 23

also

STELLA LANSING'S UFO MOTION PICTURES

Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz

See Page 3

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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POLICE AND UFO REPORTS

DURING the closing week of 1971 the need for sanity in the investigation of UFO reports was stressed in an excellent article which appeared in *Police Review*, the weekly news magazine of the British Police. The article, by Sgt. M. D. Davies of the Warwickshire and Coventry Constabulary, appeared in the journal's Christmas number, dated December 24, 1971, under a seasonal drawing of the Star of Bethlehem scene, and a quotation from *Matthew*, chapter 2, verse 9; its title was "Police and unidentified flying objects."

The opening point is made that, like almost everyone else, the police, when face to face with a strange UFO report, are inclined to let personal beliefs govern their attitude towards investigation. While the need—as in the investigation of any normal day-to-day event or crisis—is for an open-minded and objective approach which results in good and detailed statements, there are those among investigating officers who prejudge the issue and are "sarcastic", or there are "those who disbelieve on religious grounds, and indeed some even who are simply frightened."

Thereafter, if the report is accorded more than disbelieving or sarcastic dismissal, the police, faced with a lack of solid evidence, turn to "experts". "Experts in what?" asks Sgt. Davies, who then provides the answer: reputable experts in astronomy, meteorology, psychology and so on, to whom they turn because there are no experts in ufology. And these experts make speculative evaluations based on their specialist knowledge, speculations which, invariably, can cause only embarrassment and confusion. The series of speculations which were rife at the time of the wave of "fiery cross" reports in October 1967—of which a large number came from police witnesses themselves—are cited: the planet Venus, satellites reflecting the Moon and USAF 'planes involved in refuelling exercises, all of which were proved wrong, and when the sensational fuss had died down it was quietly admitted by officialdom that there was no rational explanation for the objects. By which time, we must add, certain official faces should have been very red.

Our comment on all this is that, sadly, it is largely true: there are no experts in ufology, although there are a few experts in the collecting and processing of UFO reports outside the official domain—experts like Vallée, Ballester, Michel, and serious reporting media like *Flying Saucer Review* and *Lumières dans la Nuit*. In time an even greater degree of expertise will be acquired in this matter of collecting, comparing and evaluating reports; already it is possible to make useful comparisons of new reports with details on record.

Unfortunately there are few in official positions, or in the scientific establishment, who will recognise the efforts that have been made. Undoubtedly the reason for the unconsidered opposition, the disdain and the sarcasm both among the scientific fraternity and officialdom, including certain of the police, is the publicity that has been accorded the activities of the "eager believers" who surface whenever a few reports are received in an area, and noisily promote ridiculous cultist activities.

Such activities, we regret to say, are an integral part of the phenomenon, and could well be an expected reaction to UFO events. Indeed it seems at times to researchers that the presence of the phenomenon *promotes* the near-hysterical response in some people. Nevertheless, even if the cultist behaviour seems ridiculous, it is no more ridiculous than some of the reports, and those experienced in the collecting of reports recognise that the apparently far-fetched accounts of weird events, especially those in the landing category, are the ones that are probably the most important.

At which point we return to the article in the *Police Review* where the author describes the lightweight official investigating groups like the American Project Blue Book, and hints at the existence, in the United States for example, of deeper and hidden interest in view of the US Air Force instruction AFA 200/2 of August 26, 1953, that ". . . all genuine reports of UFOs must be kept from the public" and that "Air Force officers are warned not to probe beyond the first reporting stage." He refers also to the section (111) of the US Armed Forces regulation JANAP 146 (B) under which any pilot [or other serviceman—ED.] who reveals an official UFO report can be imprisoned for up to 10 years and fined $10,000. Furthermore, to demonstrate the involvement of the military in America with this subject, he tells how even the police were refused permission to approach the scene of a crashed object near Pittsburgh—an object which was described as a meteor in the official explanation although it was tracked by radar at a slow speed, and performed a 25° turn over Cleveland.

We mention these because they are among the telling points put forward by the author in his call for the serious investigation by the police of UFO reports. We agree wholeheartedly with him when he states that no sighting report, even if it sounds far-fetched, should be treated lightly. As he says, witnesses should be treated with respect, and not brushed off, and questions should be asked which ". . . produce answers to prove what the object was not."

It is to be hoped that the good advice in the sergeant's article be heeded by his colleagues. It would be of value too if they were to learn that their opposite numbers in the French *Gendarmerie Nationale* take this matter very seriously, as was revealed in a recent issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.* The Gendarmes are aware that despite Dr. Condon's assertion that there is no evidence for the existence of "Flying Saucers", JANAP 146 (B) has not been withdrawn, and they have no illusions regarding the importance of the UFO problem.

The publication of the article in *Police Review* suggests that our Police Forces are becoming aware, albeit slowly, of this same importance. Perhaps they will become aware too that beyond the cultist fringe there are serious researchers of the UFO problem who have amassed a great deal of information on the subject, and who no doubt would be ready to assist any genuine wish for collaboration.

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* See FSR Vol. 17, No. 5 (September/October 1971, p. 27.

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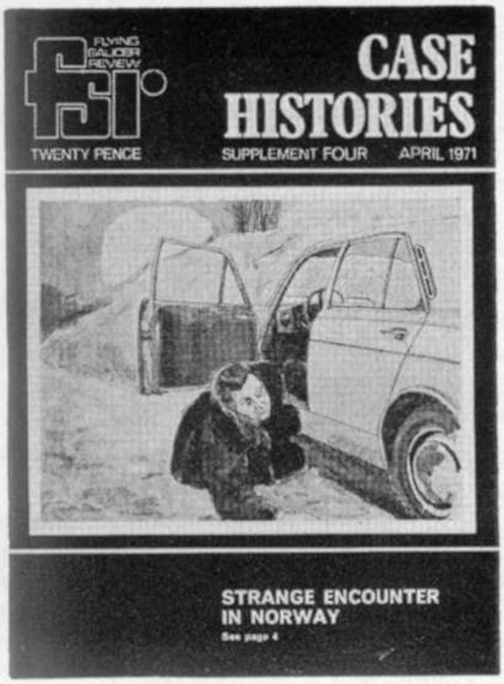

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STELLA LANSING'S UFO MOTION PICTURES

Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.

Dr. Schwarz, who has been associated with Flying Saucer Review since 1968, is Consultant, Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Hospital Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey.

"Impossible is a word only to be found
in the dictionary of fools."—Napoleon

A CONCLUDING statement of my lecture, "Ufology and Psychiatry," at the APRO Eastern Symposium, Baltimore, Maryland, January 23, 1971, was a quotation from my former teacher, friend, and colleague, Adelaide McF. Johnson, M.D., that could apply to the problem of studying people with close UFO experiences: "We can see now that in years past patients were lost or driven into psychosis by our failure to believe them because of our conviction that much of their accounts must be fantasy."[1]

Background

Just as I finished my lecture, Gordon Aylott, APRO Field Investigator from New Hampshire, tapped me on the shoulder and said that his friend Mrs. Stella Lansing, a middle-aged Massachusetts housewife, had something to tell me. Instead of having dinner with Mrs. Coral E. Lorenzen and Dr. J. Allen Hynek as planned, I spent the time in the auditorium listening to one of the most unusual accounts of alleged repeated close UFO contacts that I have ever heard. On the surface the data were extraordinary if not preposterous: experiences involving strange little men, voices appearing out of nowhere, creatures, loss of consciousness, "electric shock" from a shimmering figure, a gaping round hole in the ice, a craft possibly surfacing from under water, miniscule footprints, religious symbols, bizarre harassments, etc. Fortunately, as I later learned, Mrs. Lansing kept meticulous records of her many experiences.

The Contactee's Evidence: Psychiatric Study

The *pièce de résistance* was Mrs. Lansing's mention of various motion picture films of UFOs, including one reel showing an alleged UFO with four occupants. Fortunately she had brought her films to the APRO meeting, for without such evidence her story would have been completely incredible. That is, if one was not familiar with some of the bizarre aspects of ufology from first-hand study, one could reasonably conclude that because of Mrs. Lansing's claims she would have to be emotionally ill and in need of psychiatric attention. Plans were made for further study, and on February 12 and 13, 1971, and April 15, 16 and 17, 1971, I visited Mrs. Lansing at her lake-front home in rural Massachusetts. This field trip study was supplemented by numerous phone calls and letters. From May 13 through 17, 1971, Mrs. Lansing was further intensively studied in my office (Montclair, New Jersey). At that time physical, neurological, and electroencephalographic examinations revealed that her general health was good, and the central nervous system was objectively intact. There were no impairments of vision, hearing, or intellectual functions.

From psychiatric evaluation of Mrs. Lansing, I concluded that, allowing for her total ethnic and social background and the specific situational aspects of her accounts, she was telling the truth as she saw it about her experiences. There was no history nor motive for deception or exaggeration. She did not use any drugs (except aspirin) or hallucinogenic agents; she only infrequently used alcohol.

She was a high school graduate who, before marriage, had one year of nurse's training. Throughout her marriage she has worked off and on in nursing homes, as a part-time jewellery store clerk, as a cocktail waitress, as an injection moulder in a plastics factory, and as a taxi driver. She has been active in various social and school organisations, and was formerly the president of her hometown VFW Auxiliary, and the Button Club (an organisation of antique collectors).

Early in the course of her UFO investigations (1967) Mrs. Lansing became acutely disturbed, possibly due to bitter frustration at the refusal of those close to her to listen to her and believe her experiences, or look at her films. Following a brief meeting with her priest, she entered a nearby state hospital for study and treatment. In his letter of April 28, 1971, the hospital's Director of Clinical Psychiatry kindly sent a summary of Mrs. Lansing's hospitalisation. She was diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenia, with many typical symptoms, including hallucinations of seeing flying saucers. Her initial admission was for ten days, at the end of which she requested release, against medical advice. However, less than a month later she returned and stayed for five additional weeks. She had a satisfactory response to therapy and has had no recurrences since 1967.

When seen in 1971, she recalled all the complex details of her illness and the possible interphase areas of UFOs and psychopathology. At the time of her illness in 1967, she, a practising Roman Catholic, believed that she received the UFO-related (telepathic) communications from Beelzebub. In former centuries she might have been considered to be possessed. Many of the symptoms of her schizophrenic reaction, as recalled in 1971, were similar to the peculiar religious

Stella Lansing

colouration also found in numerous contactees, as reported by Keel[2] and Vallée.[3] Mrs. Lansing had no particular previous interest in the Bible or religious literature.

Mrs. Lansing had a very literal, down-to-earth type of exacting mind. She just recorded the facts. Beyond that she was quite as puzzled as anyone and had no explanation for her experiences other than that they actually happened. That is why she originally turned to her priest for an explanation. She was not widely or well read at that time, or for two years afterwards. She was busy with her research, working, and raising five children.

Mrs. Lansing took the Periodic Health Examination History (AMA, Form A), the Cornell Medical Index Questionnaire, Rotter Incomplete Sentences test, and the computerised Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). Again, there was no suggestion of lying, delusions, hallucinations, or impairment in her general health. The MMPI appraised the validity of the results as follows: "The responses are not polarised in direction of favourability or unfavourability, which indicated the subject presents a reasonably candid picture of herself in the test."

Although, like many people, Mrs. Lansing's past and present life adjustment had its imperfections, with periods of stress and trial, she impressed the author as being completely honest.* She related warmly and openly. She showed me all her material and drove me to the places where the reputed UFO sightings took place.

In my opinion, Mrs. Lansing's probity was supported by modified collaborative investigation of her husband, a mechanical engineer and former counter-intelligence corps corporal in General Patton's 3rd Army, and their three children who were at home at the time of my visit.

During our sessions, Mrs. Lansing showed me numerous memoranda and drawings, many recorded at the time of the UFO events, by her children, others, and herself. Some of this material was remarkable: the data dovetailed and there was no conflict.

Several of Mrs. Lansing's friends were also interviewed. Many of her more than three hundred regular and super 8 mm. 50-foot colour film reels of UFOs, including the one close-up shot, clearly show that some

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* The question is not so much *what* happened to her past life, as *how* well she managed the various traumas, and *how* her past life experiences might have influenced her truthfulness or interpretation of her data; and *how* her psychopathology and psychophysiology might have made her a candidate for such data: viz., what was the specific interaction, if any, between her and the UFOs?

The contactee should be studied in her own habitat as much as possible. Her history should be taken as it is given, without disrupting, premature interrogations (or interpretations!) or other indications on the scientist's part that could well dampen the spontaneity and hinder the flow of the material. Although some, or much, of what the contactee has to say might sound strange or even resemble a Keystone-cops routine, it should not be rejected out-of-hand. The scientist, as a human being, might have the same unconscious shortcomings of dissociation or denial of much possibly significant material. By observing the contactee, studying her claims, and her pattern of behaviour—even though it might conflict with the scientist's *a priori* values, or his common sense—much might be learned. For, as it appears in the case of Stella Lansing, she might have succeeded through an arduous trial-and-error, at times quasi child-like, approach to a problem. The scientist, on the other hand, has been properly criticised by his colleagues for his failure to duplicate analogous data, or to conduct the repeatable UFO experiment: as in this case, to successfully film UFOs.

kind of craft and four alleged occupants, and other strange phenomena, were viewed. Although most of her films were taken at night, some were daytime films (with filter in and out). The films she showed me must have contained hundreds of strange lights and unidentified aerial objects. In no way were these to be confused with the usual type of artifacts which were also occasionally seen on her films: dust, dirt, lens smudge, etc.

On two occasions hypnotic regression was induced in Mrs. Lansing for the study of two separate episodes of loss of consciousness in connection with very close (and in one instance, photographed) UFO sightings. One of these times Mrs. Lansing was alone and another time she was with a middle-aged woman and man, and four children. Her lady friend, who was also involved in various close sightings, was also quickly hypnotised into a deep trance and regressed to the time of the unusual alleged experience involving eight UFO occupants.† The hypnotic interviews were undertaken in the presence of Mrs. Lansing's husband on one occasion. At a different time, both Mrs. Lansing and her lady friend were hypnotised separately in the presence of each other and the lady friend's sister. The reported material did not conflict and, for the most part, was tape recorded.

Electroencephalographic Studies

Because of Mrs. Lansing's two episodes of loss of consciousness when in close contact with UFOs, plus the "paralytic shock" to the left hand when photographing a "shimmering figure" on another occasion, an electroencephalogram was performed. It should be stated that she had never fainted in her life, nor had she ever had any dissociative behaviour. Following the one episode of loss of consciousness, she evidenced automatic trance-like behaviour during which she operated her car for a period of time. She said: "A wave came over me and I couldn't function properly—couldn't drive or steer correctly—I saw a tree coming at me but had no sensation of being afraid." Fortunately, there were no sequelae. Such behaviour is not too dissimilar to that seen in temporal lobe epilepsy.

† On one occasion, while so entranced, Mrs. Lansing had acute abdominal pain and felt she had to vomit. She had left upper extremity twitches, and was so terrified that she could not talk. She had amnesia when she came out of the trance. This same experience was repeated at a later date. The second time her lady friend was also hypnotised. She was terrified and had grotesque facial grimaces. The friend talked about seeing eight occupants whose heads looked like carved Hallowe'en pumpkins[4] which snarled at her.

Mrs. Lansing produced a document of the second episode which was written almost immediately afterwards (November 9, 1969) by a nine-year-old boy who supposedly was the last to lose consciousness. He wrote (edited for spelling): "We went riding in the car and I saw lights. We flashed to it and it flashed back. We clapped the light on it and it began to come closer. We saw a black man about eight feet tall and I saw something like a wolf, but it was not a wolf. It had a strange body, two and a half feet long. It had three fingers and a face (see Figure 1).

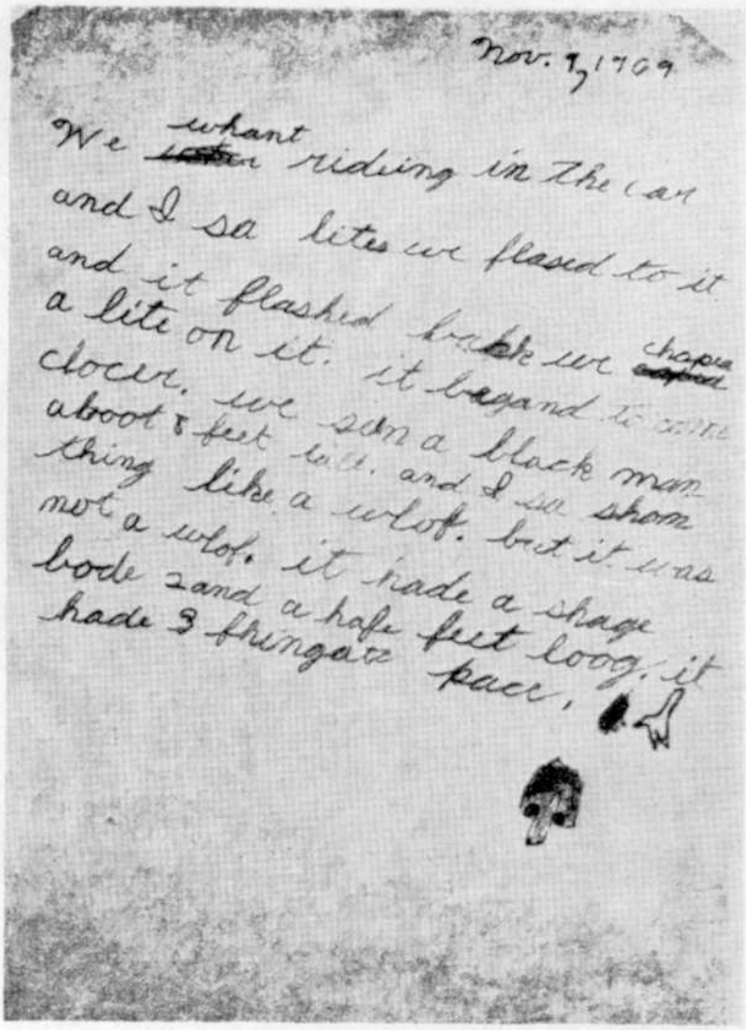


Fig. 1 (see footnote)

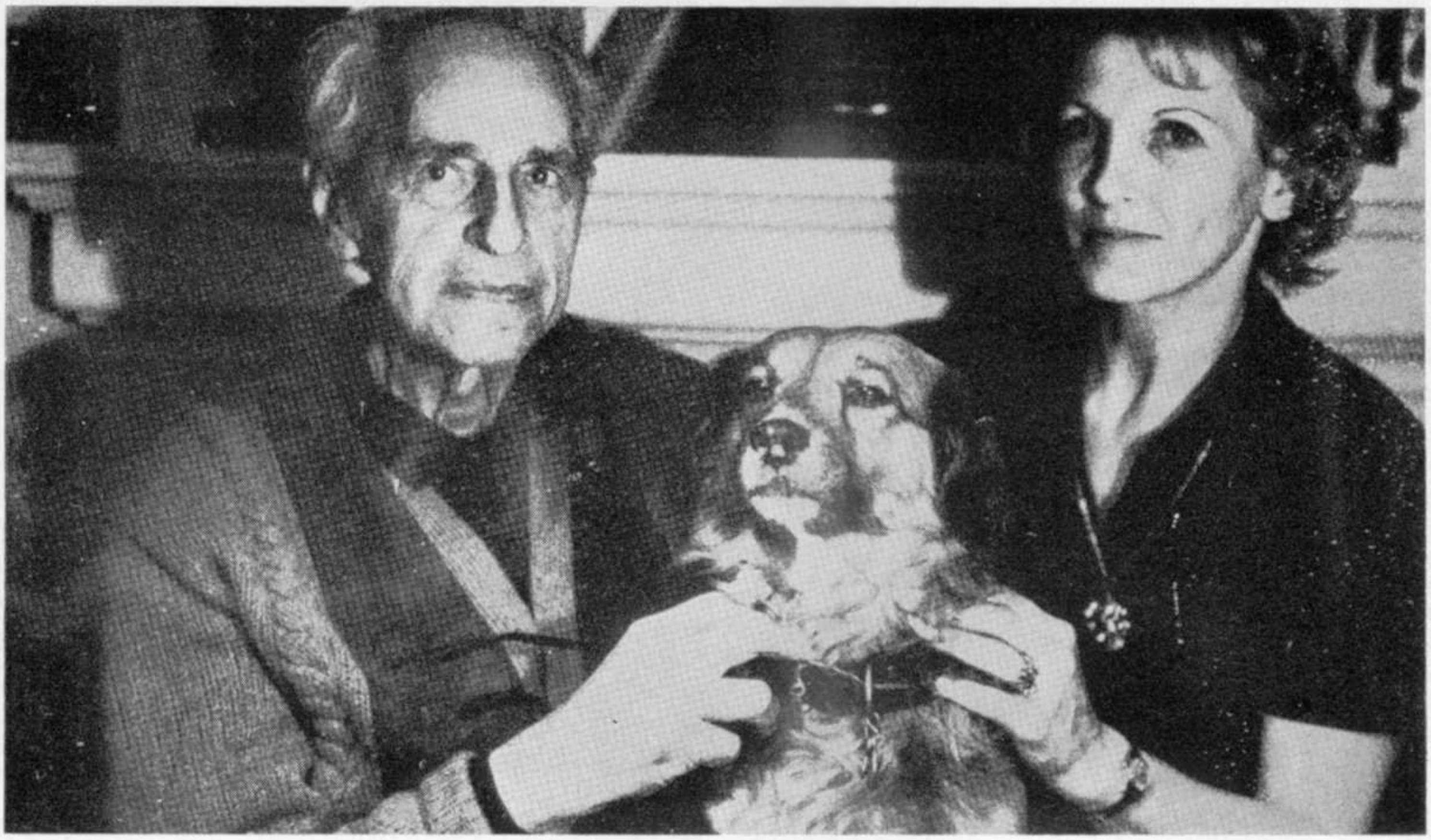
The electroencephalogram was normal. However, because of the infrequency of electroencephalographic reports on persons who are contactees or who have had close UFO experiences[5] mention should be made of the presence of well-developed bilateral wicket rhythms. Although relatively uncommon, the wicket rhythms are a normal finding. Their clinical significance, however, is not apparent.

Hypnotic activation of the electroencephalogram, according to a technique described elsewhere,[6] was undertaken. The patient, contrary to the previous hypnotic trials where a somnambulistic trance with amnesia was obtained, had much resistance, and only a light trance was induced. For the purposes of hypnotic activation, however, this is often sufficient. In any event, no changes were noted at this time.

Paranormal Survey

It is beyond the scope of this study to chronicle exhaustively all of Mrs. Lansing's many paranormal experiences. In contrast to many who claim such experiences, and who are quite adept at abstruse religious interpretations and adumbrations of elaborate systems of philosophy, Mrs. Lansing was quite matter of fact and modest about her experiences. She said: "These things happen, I don't know why."

Her experiences are complex and include alleged telepathic, precognitive, and telekinetic events, yet



Dunninger, Rusty and Stella Lansing

within the range qualitatively and quantitatively of what one obtains in studying a cross-section of people who have awareness for psi events.[7, 8] The difficulty lies in reconciling Mrs. Lansing's past psi experiences with her possibly psi-related UFO events, which involve, for example, frequent episodes of intuitions and strong hunches (telepathy or subliminal stimuli?) regarding the appearance or absence of UFOs—in some cases recorded on film, dematerialisation (?) an MIB automobile, and the merging of such bizarre physiological feats as allegedly looking at the "sun" when another sun is still evident, without any visual discomfort or impairment, and a (telekinetic, telesomatic, or other modality?) shock from a shining figure that she was photographing.

She has also had vivid visual dream imagery and experiences sometimes bordering on religiously coloured ideas of reference to hypothecated UFO stimuli. In some cases her veridical dreams were verified by independent perception of such (telepathic?) UFO stimuli by the dreams or actual waking experiences (i.e., hallucination or the actual appearance of the face of a ufonaut) of her children at the exact times that her subjective and objective events occurred. Unfortunately, from her own detailed account, study of her assorted notes made at the times, and from observation of her state hospital summary, none of her claims has ever been seriously considered and checked out. This is an all too common practice. Her responses to the most useful Ehrenwald test for psi[9] yielded a wealth of material.

Dunninger

During her visit in New Jersey, Mrs. Lansing and some of her films were examined by the master telepathist Joseph Dunninger, § at his home (May 13, 1971). Although Dunninger had no explanation, he believed that Mrs. Lansing was truthful and not involved in any hoax. He did not feel that her UFO-related experiences and films conformed to a psychic pattern in the usual sense.

He wondered if ". . . somebody or something had engineered a deal and had brainwashed her without her knowledge—unless it is her subconscious. Many mediums deceive themselves in this way and actually believe in what they do. The pictures have much artifact, but there is also much that is unexplained. They would need careful photographic analysis. Could she be a Trilby to some cosmic-minded Svengali?"

In his vast experience of attending thousands of seances and examining many physical mediums, devices, and alleged "spirit" (or psychic) pictures, Dunninger had never come upon anything similar to the data presented by Mrs. Lansing. He felt that her material was unique and worthy of intensive analysis. In his career of more than half a century, Dunninger has travelled and performed all over the civilised world,

§ Dunninger also looked at the author's films of the mystery auto and some Polaroid prints made from the projected images. He had no ready explanation but felt that two cameras used by two people at the same time and covering the same scene made a paranormal cause very unlikely.

and has written more than thirty books on telepathy, magic, and exposures of fraudulent mediums.

Two Field Trips—The Repeatable Experiment

On February 12, 1971, after an evening of intensive interviewing of Mrs. Lansing and her lady and gentleman friends, I went with her, at 4.00 a.m., to one of her favourite UFO sites, overlooking a hilltop that was cleared for high-tension wires. At that time the dark sky was suddenly lit up and we saw a round, pulsating, bright yellow-orange, noiselessly gliding light, which expanded and contracted, went out and relighted. Mrs. Lansing intermittently photographed¶ this over several minutes, while I tape-recorded the event. Stars and the moon were also seen and photographed as controls. Later, that morning, after I had returned to the motel, Mrs. Lansing, on her way home, had taken more photographs of strange lights in the sky overlooking the Massachusetts Turnpike, with the lights of passing autos in the background.

After viewing her developed motion picture film on April 16, 1971, I felt there was no reason to interpret the possible UFO experience as aeroplanes, radio-TV tower lights, pranks, or various artifacts. Her film revealed numerous, strange, different-coloured geometric forms and shapes. Some of these objects resembled the conventional sketches of various UFOs, as well as the dazzling subjective effects that one experiences under mescaline, LSD-25, and stroboscopic stimulation.[10]

During my second trip to Massachusetts, on the night of April 15, 1971, Mrs. Lansing, her middle-aged lady friend, and I drove to a very isolated rural area at 10.45 p.m. The engine and lights of the car were switched off, we got out of the car, and within minutes the sky over the nearby hill across the field was illuminated by a sudden appearance of one, and then two, white-yellowish-orange discs, which pulsated, changed size and colour, and merged into one, and then separated into two discs; then they noiselessly glided away at varying speeds. This was simultaneously photographed by Mrs. Lansing on her battery-driven motion picture camera † and by me on a spring-wound camera. □ Unfortunately, my Sony Cassette-Corder (TC 40) suddenly failed to operate at this time.+

While Mrs. Lansing and I were filming these strange lights, an automobile suddenly seemed to appear out of nowhere. It stopped approximately one to two hundred feet ahead of our car. We were shocked to see its headlights illuminate our dark area and flicker alternately left and right (and *vice versa*) in a manner reminiscent of semaphore signals,* and then dim out to a pink, and come on again. At the height of the excitement, the lady friend panicked, and screamed to us to get back in the car, which we did. Fortunately I photographed most of this bizarre incident, and for several film frames the flaming disc can be seen gliding in the background, above and then just over the glaring headlights. The latter part of the event was filmed from the interior of Mrs. Lansing's car, and showed reflections from her windshield. The mystery car then suddenly turned up its lights, started its engine, and barrelled past us at great speed. Because of the blinding headlights we could not make out the licence plate, but the auto seemed to be a rather large, nondescript General Motors model of several years ago. The mystery car was noisy and sounded as if its muffler [silencer] was defective. It was impossible to see if there were any occupants in the car. Mrs. Lansing, her friend, and I were completely surprised by this weird incident. § The ladies never had

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¶ Cannon, battery-driven super 8 mm. camera with f/1·4 lens opening and 60 mm. lens. She used Kodachrome II colour film and no filters, often with telephoto and wide-angle lenses.

† The same cameras as described in preceding footnote.

□ Revere 8 mm. Magazine Reflex Model 154, telephoto (28 mm.) lens position (with lens barrel extended) and lens opening manually fixed at f/1·8; type A Indoor Kodachrome II film (ASA 25) with a filter was used. Each frame of the developed film represented one-thirtieth of a second.

+ Even though the original mercury transistor batteries were new, checked and found to be in good condition at the start of the evening, they failed. Immediate replacement with a second set of similar mercury batteries was of no value. However, for no apparent reason, the tape recorder worked well the next morning. At the time of the experience, the temperature was just below freezing; however, the interior of the car was warm because of the heater. Mrs. Lansing's battery-driven camera worked well, and there was no apparent effect on the physician's wrist watch.

* It is hoped that a member of the FSR staff or readership can decipher the signals.

§ The whole question of MIBs and like situations is most difficult to analyse. The pioneering studies of John A. Keel[2, 4] and articles in FSR give many examples of this. The borderline between psychopathology, coincidence, telepathy, and synchronicity, and possible MIB events, is very poorly defined. The author was very surprised to learn from interviews with several respected ufologists that MIB phenomena happen rarely, or never at all. However, upon further pointed questioning, it was learned that one of these people had indeed some excellent examples of MIBs but had consciously dismissed the material because it would contaminate his studies, was too weird to be considered, or was irrelevant to the problem of UFOs. As in many matters, one must first think of the possibility and then have a technique of getting at the information before one concludes that it doesn't exist. This latter policy can only be an example of the investigator's inexperience or ignorance of the phenomena at hand, rather than its non-existence.

In the author's personal experience many odd and possibly UFO-related coincidences have happened. In the study of some close UFO experiences he has the example of a strange telephone interview of Sgt. Ben Thompson[5] of Wanaque, New Jersey, where among several strange and crank events a mysterious caller, allegedly from Washington, D.C., obtained the Sergeant's unlisted number and asked him many questions about the sighting, instructing him to say nothing. On March 31, 1966, Mrs. Connie Bateman, her mother and sister, children, and others, had a very close, tree-height UFO sighting at White Rock Lake, New Jersey. The following morning Mrs. Bateman's mother received a 'phone call to her unlisted number. She was admonished not to discuss the matter with the newspapers (or anyone). The mother got the impression that the mystery caller was from the government, although he gave no identification.

Footnote continued on page 10

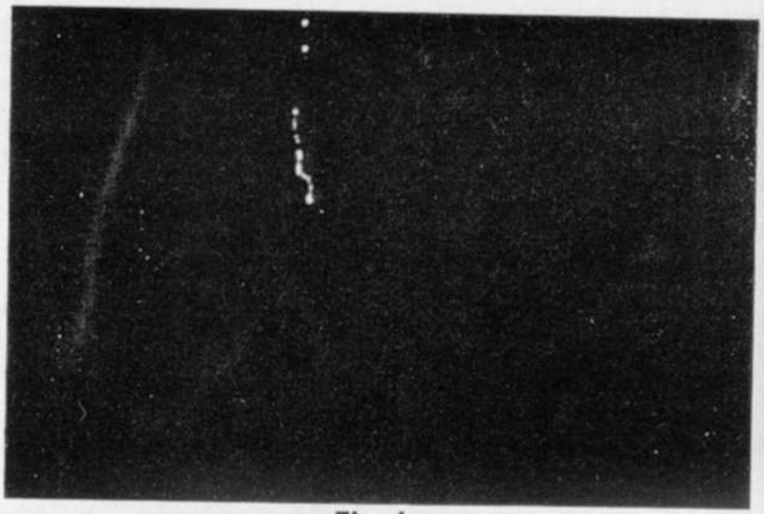
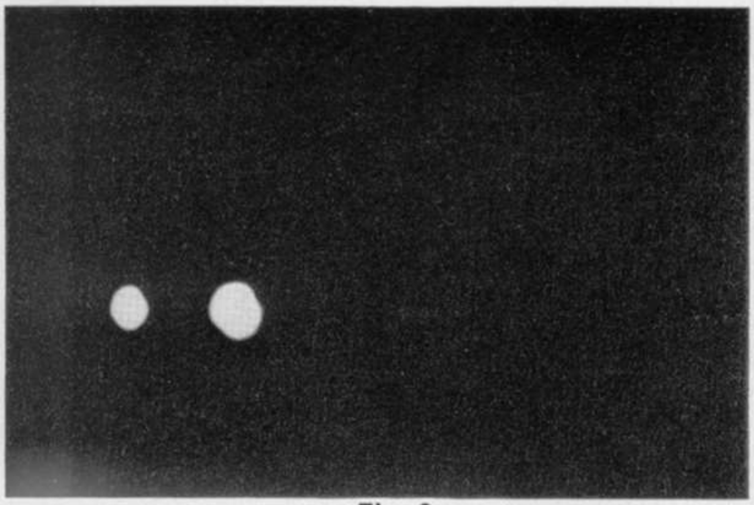


Fig. 1



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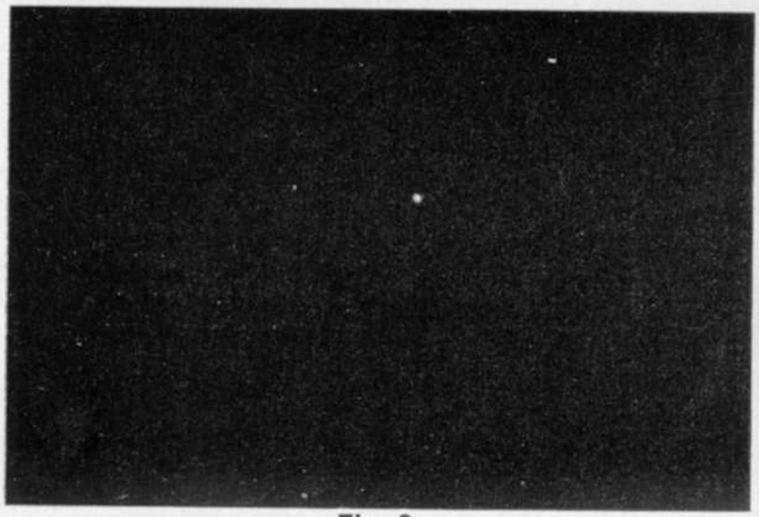

Fig. 3

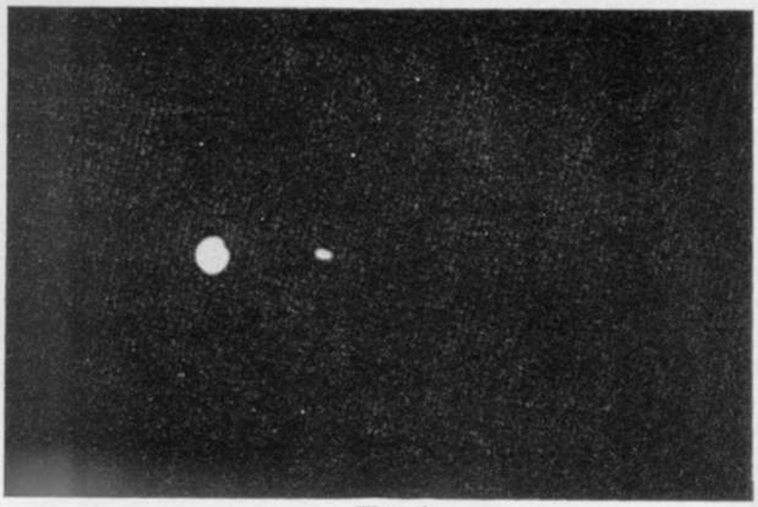

Fig. 4

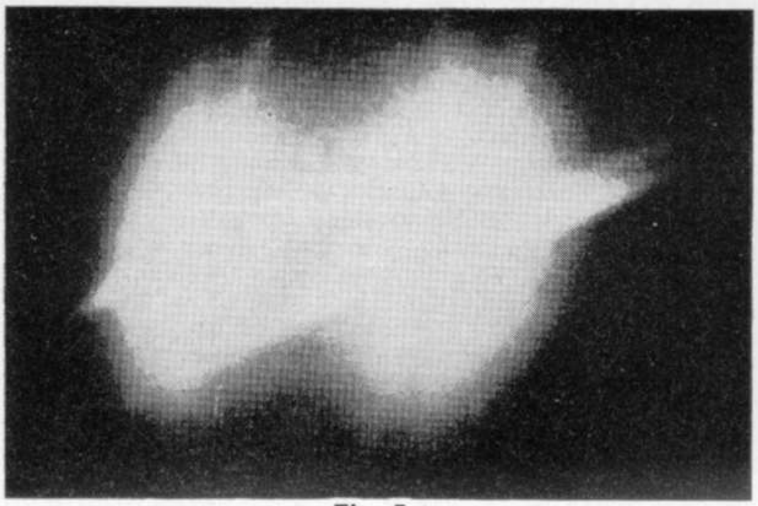

Fig. 5

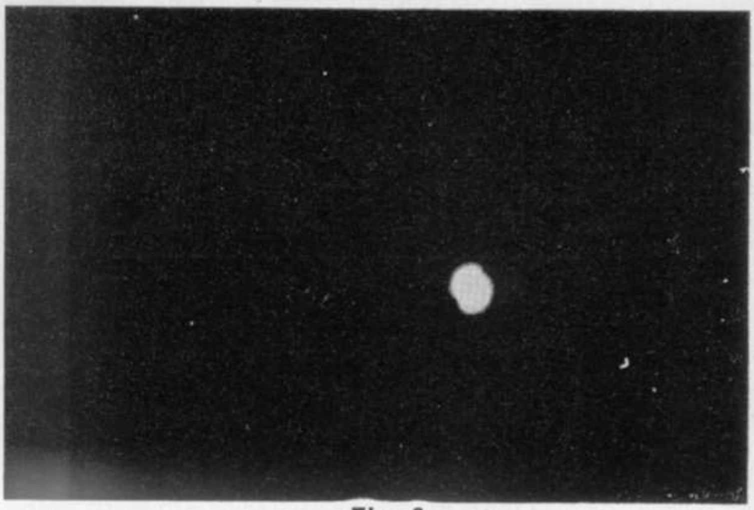

Fig. 6

Black and white prints from Dr. Schwarz's movie

this type of experience before and we had no idea (nor had anyone else, in the opinion of the ladies) that we would be in this particular location at this time.

Illustrative prints of the motion picture film strips of this experience are seen in Figures 2-7.

When Mrs. Lansing's films of the same incident were viewed by the author, members of his family and his colleague, Batholomew A. Ruggieri, M.D., the flaming discs were clearly seen. But she did not photograph the strange auto with the possibly signalling headlights. No additional UFOs were seen that night.

The next day motion pictures were taken of the areas that were seen the previous night. The distance from where we were standing to where the possible UFO might have been, was approximately a half mile. (See Figure 8 for this and 9 for the approximate position of the mystery auto.) The strange lights were estimated by Mrs. Lansing to be a little above tree height at the

mountain top of the region of high tension wires. ≠

On the second night (February 14, 1971) not much was observed until 12.15 a.m., when "the red bug" was noted on the ridge of the mountain, bordering the highway, where we were driving. Mrs. Lansing stopped her car and we photographed the craft. It flew over the valley from mountain top to mountain top, ending in the area of the cable-vision TV tower (with a red beacon light) and high-tension wires. Although the craft was clearly visualised in my camera's viewfinder, I was shocked to see, when the films were developed that at no point was this "red bug" with its sputtering red sparks—estimated to be three times the size of Venus—seen. However, some very strange structures did appear on several frames of the film (see Figures 10 to 12 for this; and Figure 13, for daytime picture of the particular area). In many ways these structures were similar to "craft" that Mrs. Lansing had photographed on numerous previous occasions.

Most of her pictures, like my solitary beginner's luck experience, showed the filmed craft (artifact?) in the vertical axis. However, if the plane of Mrs. Lansing's pictures were tilted to the horizontal, the "craft" was similar to some conventional drawings of alleged UFOs: i.e., with the many compartments or lights and domed bubble, superiorly. It should be stressed that many of Mrs. Lansing's photos over the years showed superior, detailed form, colour, movement, and relation to other objects. On the night of our conjoint observation, Mrs. Lansing successfully photographed the "red bug" which was similar to other movies she had of this over the years. She is a good photographer ⊙ and the author is not.

The "red bug" also might have been the craft with the four occupants that were very clearly visualised on film she had taken several years earlier (but not in fact at the time of filming—and not recognised until several months later when she got a slow-motion movie projector). One odd feature of the "red bug," as actually observed by Mrs. Lansing and me, was the sudden occurrence of a loud sound, like an early-model propeller-driven aeroplane motor. Although the path of the "red bug" had not changed sufficiently, its propeller sound just as strangely "clicked off."

Later that night, when returning to the motel, I photographed a three-quarter yellow-pink moon as a control and reference for the size of the "red bug" we had seen earlier. When the film strips were analysed, frame by frame, some tiny blue discs and circular objects were seen in the vicinity of the moon. Although this might seem like artifact to someone who had not studied such film frame by frame, or who was unfamiliar with Mrs. Lansing's technique and films, I call attention to it because of the appearance of many such unobtrusive forms, where they appear as just flickers of light at slow-motion projection speed. It is only after a careful frame-by-frame analysis that many such flickers

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Footnote continued from page 8

On a Wednesday night in April, 1967, members of the Lawrence Robinson and Herbert C. Lindsay families of Hackettstown, New Jersey, noted a noiseless, gliding UFO, with a circle of spinning lights going counter-clockwise for one hour, over the Hackettstown Fish Hatchery, and then hovering over the rooftop of the house across the street from their homes. During the event the local police were contacted and they notified the state police. All the police arrived promptly in unmarked cars. The informants remembered overhearing the radio communications between the police car and headquarters. However, when I checked this matter with both the most helpful local and state police, there were no records of the incident. There was no newspaper account of the episode, but Bruce Prichard, currently a college student, who at the time of the sighting was in high school, wrote a composition on the sighting for his English class. He kindly wrote me and confirmed the facts of his earlier interview. The morning after the event, according to Mr. Lindsay, a black car drove up and two middle-aged white men made inquiries about the event of the night before. A photographer took pictures of the house over which the UFO had hovered. Although the watchman at the Fish Hatchery kept careful records in his log book, upon questioning the Superintendent, it was learned that the watchman had neither memory nor written record of the incident. Interviews and psychiatric screening of Mrs. Robinson, her son, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay, and their daughter Stella convinced me that they were truthful and free of any relevant psychopathology.

The final example is the incident of Mrs. V.N., a seventy-nine-year-old widow of an air force Colonel, near Mount Snow, Vermont. A Smith College graduate, she had witnessed and recorded in her diary several tree-height sightings over her home and barn during the spring and summer of 1969. On a few occasions she was convinced that a car, on the dirt road in the valley below, was signalling its headlights (both in unison) at the craft, which apparently responded by dimming its lights. The lady had no fixed opinion on her "artificial moon, with a strange ladder device coming down." It was hard for me to believe her account of the automobile-UFO signalling aspect and to reconcile it with psychiatric study which revealed that the lady was alert, highly intelligent and literate. She appeared truthful, and free of relevant psychopathology. My opinion was further supported by an interview of my informant, the telephone line repairman, who drove me to her home. He became occupationally involved at the time, following one close sighting when the lights of the UFO woke up the lady, and the telephones, along with the electricity, failed. Mrs. V.N.'s experiences were further supported by an interview of her nephew, a college professor who was originally from the author's home town.

Additional examples of possible harassment include the Port Monmouth Landing (FSR May/June 1971) and the Woodstock, New York cases.

≠ Many of Mrs. Lansing's best UFO pictures were taken in isolated areas, close to high-tension wires, following railroad tracks, swampy areas, the local airport which rarely has night flights, gravel or sand pits, and supplies of fresh water.

⊙ Perhaps the neologisms ufographer, ufography, ufographs would be more precise and meaningful than the cumbersome terminology of UFO photographer, etc.

@ It is not the purpose of this study to attempt to catalogue the many weird, varicoloured forms Mrs. Lansing has photographed. In addition to what has been described, her objects also resembled huge "skeletons", musical instruments such as guitars or banjos, Coelenterata, figures by Hironymous Bosch, Dali-like ideograms, and phantasmagoria. A most practical classification scheme for Mrs. Lansing's photographs might be that offered by Ivan T. Sanderson (*Uninvited Visitors*, Cowles, New York, 1967, and Neville Spearman Ltd., London, 1969).

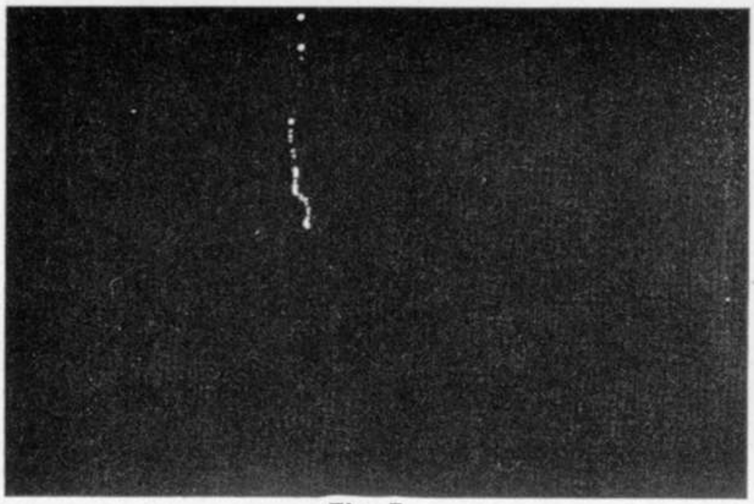
Fig. 7

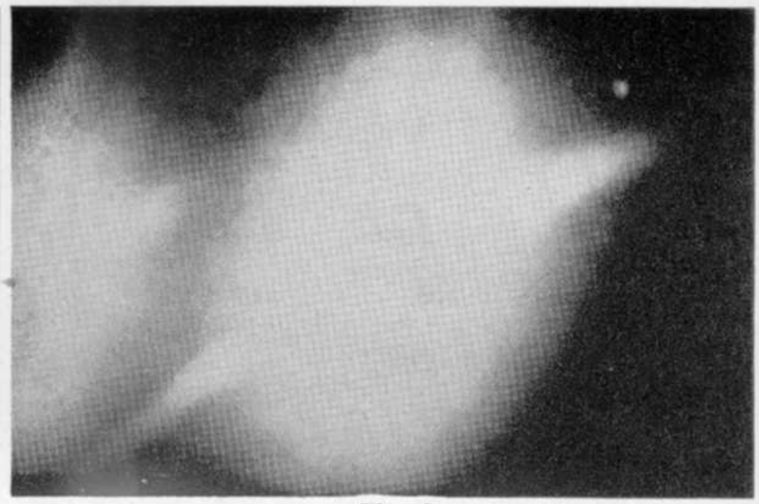
Fig. 8

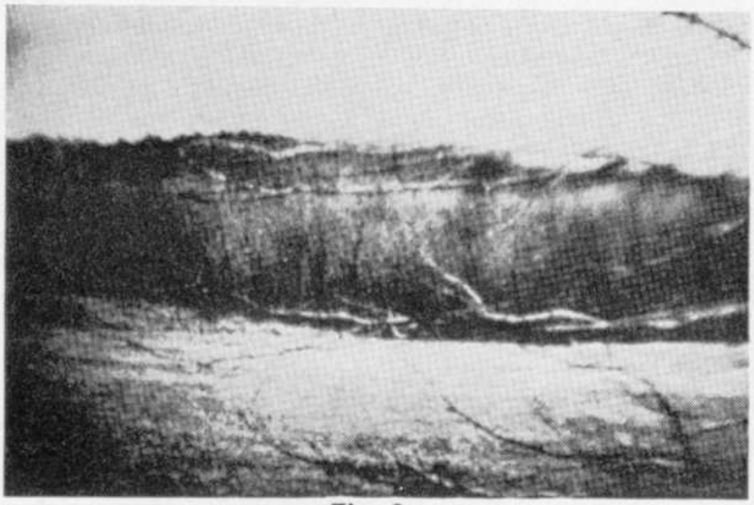
Fig. 9

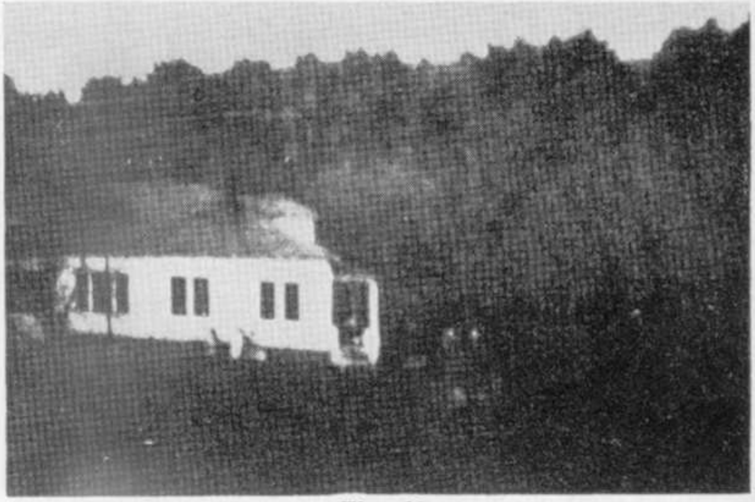
Fig. 10

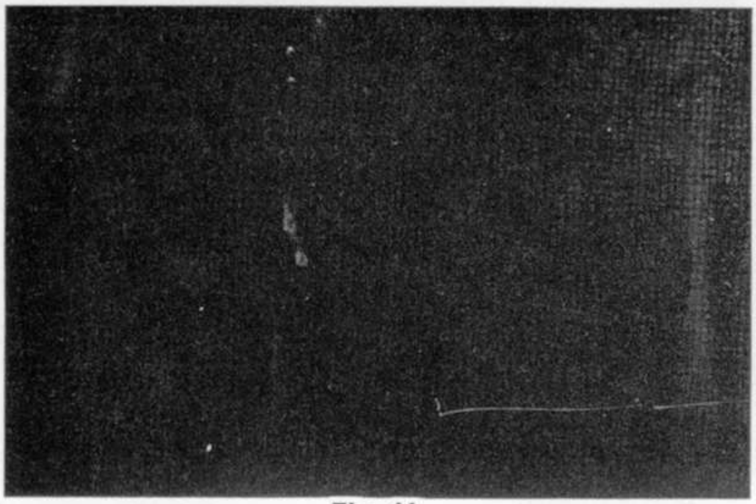
Fig. 11

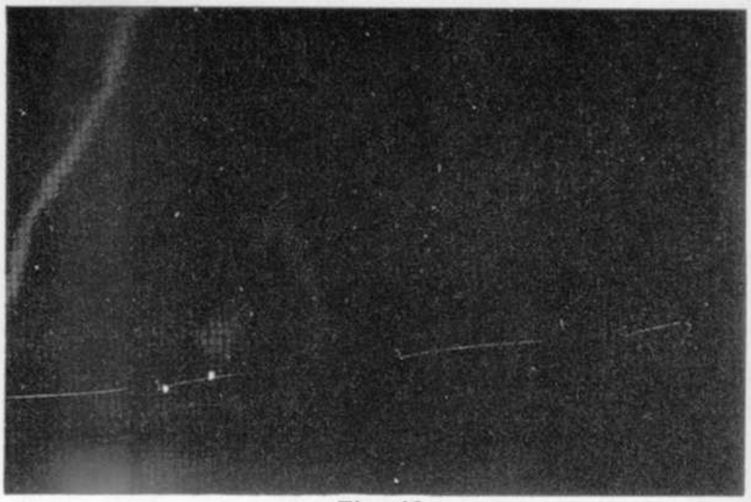
Fig. 12

(Figures 14, 15, 16) are clearly delineated into variable-sized, shaped, and coloured structures. @ Mrs. Lansing has trained her eyes and ears to an awareness that is corrected and refined by the feedback mechanism of viewing her projected films. What might be an unobtrusive smudge to the casual observer often turns out to be (on frame-by-frame analysis) an interesting phenomenon of possibly another world—invisible—but all around us.

The third night, after a day of further intensive study, interviews, field trips, and so on, Mrs. Lansing, her friend, and I all had the feeling that we would see nothing that night. And nothing was seen.

Although many nocturnal pictures were taken in Massachusetts and New Jersey of various familiar objects, such as aeroplanes, beacon towers, stars, and the moon as controls, a study of the developed films revealed nothing like the things Mrs. Lansing and I had seen and photographed separately and together. ≏

Discussion

The purpose of this preliminary report is to mention briefly some of the claims and motion picture evidence of a confirmatory UFO photographing experience of contactee, Mrs. Stella Lansing. Although an exhaustive collation and scrutiny of all the data as to time, place, and person cannot be offered in this study, it is unlikely that such a complete and most desirable record will be procured. Since there is neither motive nor apparent method for fraud or hoax, such an explanation under the described circumstances would appear unlikely.

Two possible explanations are that Mrs. Lansing's "trick" was to take motion pictures of a "science fiction TV show" or that her pictures of supposed UFOs are "impossible" because there is no film sufficiently sensitive. The supposed trick, however, would require more of her hard-earned money, skill, ingenuity, plus the talents of a prestidigitator, than the actual method she used.

The facts completely contradict the opinion of fraud. If the honesty of the photographs are no better than the character and truthfulness of the one who is taking them, then Mrs. Lansing has produced an invaluable document. It is for the astronomer, physicist, chemist, photographer, engineer, biologist, and anthropologist to explain what appears on the film.●

Direct psychiatric study of her at her home, in action while filming UFOs, in the physician's office and laboratory; and a modified collaborative investigation of her family and friends in their homes and on field trips unequivocally support her honesty and truthfulness. She is a very fine lady. "Scientific proof of causation is not satisfied by demonstrating the invariable presence of the suspected cause (unwitting parental permissiveness) whenever the effect (anti-social behaviour of children) is observed. It must (also) be demonstrated that the suspected cause does not occur unless the effect is also seen."[1]

To concoct such a hoax and to lie so convincingly and produce such a wealth of purported evidence would require the subject to have a long and involved history of being a brilliant confidence trickster. There is nothing in Mrs. Lansing's life to suggest this. She has avoided any notoriety for herself and her family. As a matter of fact, she and her family have worked hard and made costly material sacrifices so that she could continue the UFO studies. Furthermore, as a possible direct consequence of her researches, she paid the frightful price of developing a psychosis which necessitated psychiatric hospitalisation. This aspect of the relationship between ufology and the mental health of those who have undergone the experiences, and the relevance of the attitudes of others about them, is discussed elsewhere.★, [5], [11] It is just as erroneous to conclude that because a psychosis intervened the patient's truthfulness or reality testing in the area under study is fallacious, as the opposite: the "healthy" person has a guaranteed superior ability in this regard. For many reasons it is not rare for patients, with some type of emotional disorder, to have a localised superior observational ability: hyperacusis, hyperamnesia, spuriously increased vision. Generalisations are of limited value; each case must be decided on its merits.

Mrs. Lansing's honesty was independently corroborated by Joseph Dunninger's study of her and her films. She had known of Dunninger for many years, and rather than avoid him for the incorrectly but commonly held misconception that he is a "mind reader" or "human lie detector," △ she looked forward to meeting him. As mentioned earlier, Dunninger is a world-honoured magician, inventor of illusions, exposer of fraudulent mediums, and a famous telepathist.

If Stella Lansing's pictures are fraudulent or all artifact, then one must explain how it was done, duplicate the data himself, and then apply the same yardstick to the author, a poor photographer, who (1) on one trip accompanied Mrs. Lansing when she successfully filmed UFOs, and (2) at a later time filmed UFOs himself, with the strange signalling (?) mystery car, while Mrs. Lansing independently recorded the UFOs. An exact copy of the film of this latter episode was sent to Mr. Charles Bowen, Editor of *Flying Saucer Review*, for independent study and preparation for publication.

Although far short of the ideal laboratory precision, the subject at hand must be studied in a suitably appropriate manner. In this case the *sine qua non* is the repeatability of the Lansing experience and the independent and simultaneous recording of the episode of the UFOs on film.

The reported films for both Mrs. Lansing and the

≏ In some control film frames odd structures were seen. These were different from the known objects that were photographed and recognised as such. These films were reviewed by knowledgeable World War II veterans: a former captain in the United States Army Air Force and a former naval aviator. Neither of them, Robert L. Brasher, a building contractor, nor Floyd H. Farrant, M.D., an ophthalmologist, could interpret the strange objects. They felt that the vertical string of lights blue-ray effect were not aeroplanes. Thus, there is an admitted need for controls and expert photographic analysis to define artifact.

● One should bear in mind Dunninger's quotation of his friend Houdini: "Put the greatest investigators, scientists and myself in a box and dump us overboard—and I'm the only one who will come up alive."

★ When psychosis is more likely the occasion for the patient's UFO interest, rather than the reverse condition, the psychiatrist obtains an altogether different history. The overlap area is the problem. In his files of more than 175 psychiatrically screened UFO examples, the author has excellent examples of the former: Mrs. Lansing's case represents the precipitation of a psychosis by her keen UFO interest and the way it was managed; and there is one instance where a patient with a life-long manic-depressive psychosis had observed, with his wife, a very close UFO sighting and consequent landing, as was supposedly reported in the newspapers.

△ In one UFO case, various photographs of alleged UFOs made the front pages of a large-circulation metropolitan newspaper, UFO books, and a major TV network. However, after careful collaborative psychiatric study, the mere mention of the witness's forthcoming interview with Dunninger caused the young person to confess the hoax and its *modus operandi*.

Fig. 13

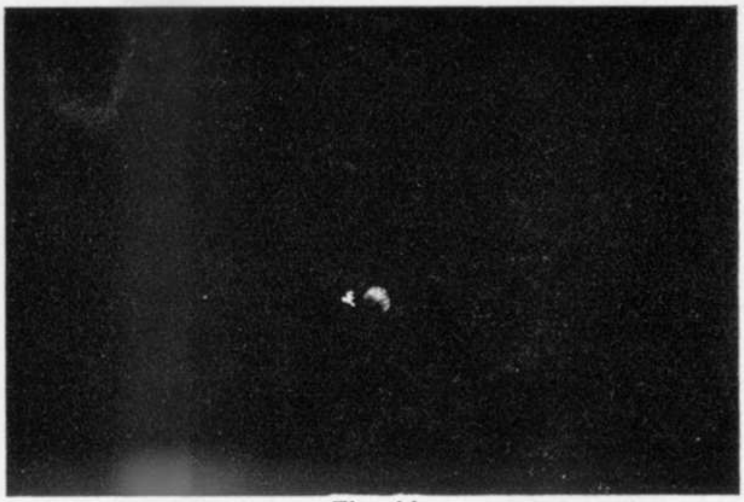

Fig. 14

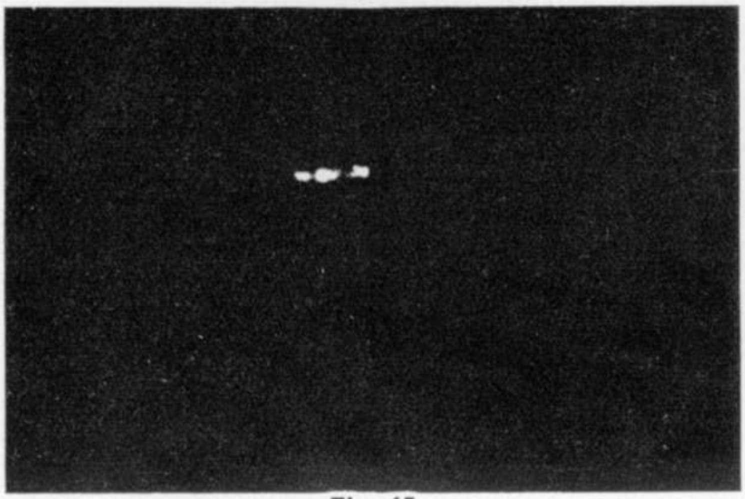

Fig. 15

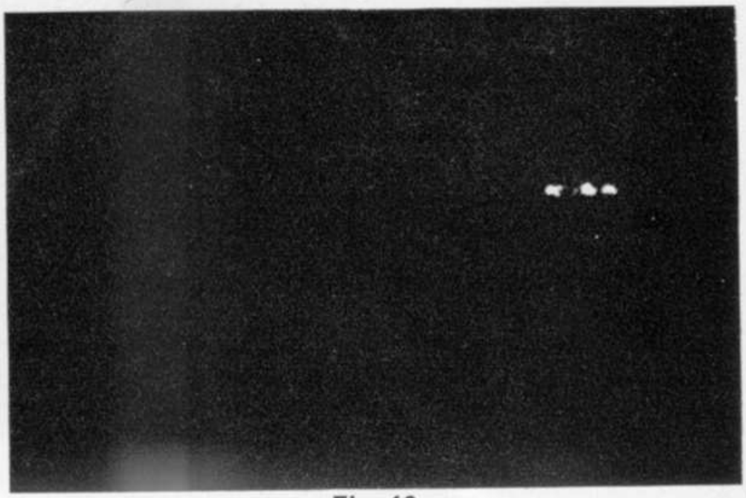

Fig. 16

author render the possibility of collective visual hallucination unlikely. To explain the films as paranormal would also be unsatisfactory because the data do not conform to the thoughtography material as presented in Eisenbud's epoch-making study,[12] nor do they conform to the vast experiences and collections of Joseph Dunninger. However, the whole UFO business is so bizarre that some type of hitherto unrecognised UFO-induced paranormal film effect cannot be ruled out.

Mrs. Lansing is continuing her pioneering efforts, and some of her UFO films are being prepared for scientific publication. The implications of what she has done are enormous. She has shown that what some might consider to be impossible is possible. She has found a technique that others can try. If what she has done is truthful, as it seems to be, she has given us the repeatable experiment. It would be premature, and beyond the scope of this report, to delve into the intriguing, and at times awesome, possibilities of various interpretations of her numerous experiences and films: for example, the significance of the possibly signalling mystery car, and speculations about the pros and cons of the interpenetration of parallel worlds *vs.* the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

Fortunately, as far as the tasks of the investigator are concerned, Mrs. Lansing has always been more interested in the collecting and recording of facts in writing, tape, and on film, than indulging in prolix, often insupportable, philosophising. Her studies show how one person—even a not-so-ordinary housewife—might singlehandedly make a significant discovery.

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(*continued on page 20*)

PROJECT DICK

Aimé Michel

"Half-baked ideas of people are better than ideas of half-baked people."—Irving John Good

EVERY time that, for my own instruction, I re-read one of my articles in *Flying Saucer Review* and I find it strewn with ridicule, sarcasms, and bad jokes, a blush of shame rises to my brow as I think of the promiscuous outrage thus inflicted on so many serious investigators, investigators who respect their readers, and I swear that I will display more decency next time.

Alas, that next time won't be yet. Desirous of setting forth my thoughts regarding the epistemology of our investigations, I have been immersing myself in the innumerable works devoted to *Interstellar communication*, *Communication with superior intelligences*, *Intelligent life in Space*, and so on (about 80 titles in Lynn Catoe's 1969 bibliography[1]—I do not have all of those she lists, but I have also others) and, apart from a few exceptions[2], [3], [4] one must admit that what has been written on the subject so far can only invite derision. Almost all these solemn works are inspired by one single and solitary idea, always the same one: to wit, the crazy presumption of the human mind, which would have the immense Universe teeming with non-human superintelligences, always provided however that—as Bergier puts it—those superintelligences have studied at the Sorbonne or Oxford or M.I.T.

As a start, let us quote a few of the most illustrious of these authorities:

For Su-Shu Huang[5] "these superintelligences, in order to increase their chances of contacting civilisations in other worlds, must (*sic*) divide the antenna time and beam the signals successively to all stars which are within reach."

For Michael H. Briggs[6] "attempts by intelligent extra-terrestrials to establish contact might (*sic*) be by radio transmissions, space probes, and emissions of radiation in the far infra-red."

For A. G. W. Cameron,[7] "the laser may be the obvious (*sic*) way of communication, since the signal-to-noise ratio of their optical transmissions should be orders of magnitude better than that calculated for the Sun by Schwartz and Townes." (Let us pity the poor superintelligences who might perhaps not have read Schwartz and Townes.)

Let us recognise however that many other scientists, more cautious, have refused to speculate on the means of communication that superintelligences *would have to* employ, and have confined themselves to studying, among the various means that are imaginable by man, those which we could try to detect. Let us note in particular the authors of Project Ozma,[8] von Hoerner,[9] F. J. Dyson, Melvin Calvin,[10] etc. On the other hand, others, like the Nobel Prizewinner, Jacques Monod,[11] do not shrink from affirming that man is very probably the sole intelligent being in the Universe, which view is apparently shared by Harlow Shapley,[12] while the great expert on evolution, G. G. Simpson,[13] thinks all contact may be for ever impossible.

All speculations on the means of communication between superintelligences, and on projects for the detection of such means, recall to my mind a certain other "Project Ozma" much earlier than the one that failed so notably a few years ago. I shall call it "Project Dick," from the name of its author. With my own eyes, at about the age of 15, I watched this Project Dick being formulated, being developed, and I saw it fail in the same way and probably for the same reasons as, later, Project Ozma failed.

PROJECT DICK

Dick was an immense and fierce sheepdog (a German sheepdog) who looked after my father's cows. He had only one method of communication, but one which he understood to perfection. This method consisted, on the transmission side, in deftly piddling in a thousand different ways. On the reception side, it consisted in unerringly sniffing the emissions of his colleagues. His virtuosity and skill both ways were prodigious. He had piddles that were protective, aggressive, benevolent, possessive, dreamy, meditative, scornful, evasive, dubitative, and peremptory. He had one for every kind of circumstance. And, inversely, one single exploratory sweep of his nasal radar enabled him to identify instantaneously all the concepts put into circulation in his intellectual space-framework by all the beings present in that space, that is to say, by all the dogs of the neighbourhood.

This superlatively controlled technique encountered no defeat until its utiliser got into his head the idea of detecting the problematical existence, within his environment, of non-canine intelligences. One day when, in a meadow, I was engaged in discussion with a very distinguished gentleman (subsequently a member of the Paris Academy of Medicine), Dick came and sat down near us, gave us a long and pensive look, and suddenly received his Project Ozma revelation. I do not think I am misrepresenting his thoughts if I attribute to him the following line of reasoning:

"These two natural phenomena clearly obey simple physical laws. When I take my cows to the meadow, the smaller phenomenon of the two does this, that, and the other. I manipulate him at will, triggering off in him elementary mechanisms in conformity with the experimental method. I have not studied the other, taller phenomenon, well, but, as they are identical, he should present no particular problem. However, it is necessary

to recognise that at times they do behave like dogs. At this present moment they are making this voice-noise together, which is well known to specialists. As it costs us nothing, let us suppose that they are trying to communicate. Naturally this isn't the way in which one communicates. But all the same I can try to find out whether they are capable of communicating. Taking into consideration the velocity of the wind by which smells are carried, the height of the things that might be their noses, the specific odour of each of them, the spectrum of the chemical molecules stimulated by the surrounding temperature, the *signal-to-nose ratio* calculated by my dog colleagues Médor and Biquet* (in this case a series of calculations too complicated to be reported here), it is obvious that the experiment we are going to attempt is simple and feasible."

So he proceeded to carry out his experiment which, as I have said, was a failure, although I, inspired by the same scientific curiosity as my dog, had observed, with the most careful attention, and without intervening in the slightest, the unfolding of this experiment. When Dick had piddled, in vain, on the calf of the right leg of the future Academician, and, having then ascertained that this was producing no result, he had piddled, with the same scrupulous care, on the calf of the left leg, he finally walked off, greatly disappointed. Very unfairly, the gentleman with whom I was talking disputed that this experiment was of any interest and also took his departure. And yet, as I have already said, he is a scientist, and he has honoured me with his friendship.

"Ah, but I beg your pardon," people always say when I tell them about that set-back, "it isn't the same thing at all! Comparing the relations of dog and man to relations between man and superintelligences is just a silly gimmick. Your story is funny, maybe, but it is philosophically absurd. Man is a rational being, which the dog is not, but which, on the contrary, superintelligences are bound to be. If, one day, we encounter these superintelligences, we shall in any case be able to make ourselves understood by them, by basing ourselves on the universal truths arrived at by human reason, such as the quantity π; $2 + 2 = 4$; $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$, and so on. Ivan Bell, H. Freudenthal and others have given examples of simple arithmetical messages having a universal value."[14]

To this I invariably reply that these values are only universal within the limits of human reason; that we call them universal only because we cannot imagine anything else beyond them, just as the dog cannot attain to anything beyond the olfactory concepts which for him are also universal. This reply leads in turn to an obscure philosophical discussion regarding the principle of immanence ("one only thinks one's own thoughts"); nominalism and realism; the dispute about universals; logical positivism; the Vienna Circle; Rudolf Karnap; Israel Scheffler[15]; and, finally, my favourite philosopher, the Greek of the Stoic decadent period, Sextus Empiricus,[16] and there one stops without any result, for I have never yet had the good fortune to meet one of the five or six people in the whole world who have perhaps read Sextus Empiricus, apart from the French Hellenist Mario Meunier, who died from it.

I shall therefore attempt here to tackle the problem from another angle, namely from the angle of the experimental method. Let us begin by propounding this problem clearly:

Do there exist experimental facts, in the domain of observation, of measurement, of calculation, showing that human thought, far from being a receptacle for universal knowledge, is limited by the physiology and the anatomy of homo sapiens, *precisely as the intelligence of the dog is limited by his odour and his brain?*

In my opinion the answer is *yes*, and I will quote some of these facts.

(a) Between Ape and Man

I think it will be granted that a chimpanzee will never be able to compose a Mozart sonata, repair a defective TV set, or calculate the flight path of *Apollo XV*. He will never be able to do it, not because he has not learnt how to do it, but because he lacks, *irremediably*, the necessary physical and intellectual instrument for doing it.

I think it will also be granted that man's ancestors, towards the middle or even the end of the Tertiary Era, were, from the point of view of intellectual possibilities, precisely at the point where the present-day chimpanzees are now. If anyone wishes to dispute this, I would refer him to the palaeontologists and prehistorians, and let him sort it out with them. Between the animal ancestors of man and man himself, there is the same impassable gulf as between the chimpanzee and man.

It will also be granted, I think, that this gulf has nevertheless been crossed, as a consequence of continuous evolution. In order to challenge this statement, it would be necessary to start by destroying all the palaeontological and prehisiorical museums in the world. Between the pebble culture and the atomic bomb, the remains found by prehistorians reveal no discontinuity of any kind. However, those who created the pebble culture were beings incapable of mastering fire. Man or animal? One would need to be pretty smart to say. What is certain, is that the impassable intellectual gulf to which we referred exists between *Australopithecus* and Plato. *This gulf has nevertheless been passed in one continuous process.* To anyone who argues that this assertion is absurd, I would suggest that he reflect on the following problem which, 2,000 years ago, the Greeks spent several centuries discussing:

Does a man who has hair become bald when he loses one hair?

The reply is obviously *no*. Then, if I tear out all the hairs, *one by one*, from the head of the most hirsute of hippies, he will *never* be bald, even if he looks like Yul Brynner. (This reasoning is called *sorites* in Greek.)

(b) The Evolution of Homo Sapiens

So far I have only cited observed facts. Now let us add calculation to it.

The geologist André de Cayeux[17] has shown in graph form, on a logarithmic time-scale (see Chart), the direction and the date of the successive different industries of prehistoric times as they are given by the 15 or 20 world authorities (Americans, British, French,

Germans) most respected in questions of Prehistory. Let us make it clear that these 15 or 20 scholars, who often oppose each other fiercely on other questions, are in agreement on these datings, owing to the reliability of the various methods used and the manner in which they confirm each other. The graph covers 2,000,000 years—up to the Iron Age—that is to say a period of time reaching, in man's ancestry, from the animal to *Homo Sapiens* of the great civilisations of Antiquity—a *Homo Sapiens* who intellectually is absolutely identical with you and me, and includes such geniuses as Homer and Moses.

On this chart we find two remarkable facts:

Whatever the law of succession of those prehistoric or protohistoric industries, it is the same throughout, from one end of the period of time under consideration to the other, as the line formed is a straight one in which no singularity of any sort can be detected, nothing to indicate that at any moment anything particular has happened, nothing that marks a break or any change, sudden or not. The appearance of *Homo Sapiens* on the scene, in particular, between the Mousterian and the Perigordian, passes completely unnoticed.

Now, what we are concerned with — let us not forget this—are successions of *industries*, that is to say, products of intelligence. Here we put our finger on the fact that, backed up by figures and graphs, the evolution of intelligence has shown an absolute continuity from the animal right up to the man of the Iliad, the Odyssey, and the Pentateuch. The appearance of the supposed universal human reason took place according to the process of *sorites*.

But (and this is the second lesson the graph teaches us, and perhaps the most important) *the time-scale, shown on the graph in abscissa, is logarithmic*. If it were not, the curve, instead of being a straight line, would be ever more vertical. This means that the law of the evolution of prehistoric intelligence from animal to man remaining always the same, its effect, measured in quantity of information i, is given by the function:

$$f - i^c$$

Or, if we prefer, the quantity of innovations invented by prehistoric thought doubles in the course of the equal successive periods of time.

De Cayeux's graph covers only the prehistoric period. But it has been found again, in precisely the same form, in the historical evolution of man; in the evolution of the technology of recent centuries; in the evolution of the technology of recent decades; and of the technology of the present years. In France, for example, the output of electricity doubles every ten years. The technology which is at present the most advanced one, namely informational technology, is doubling every five years.[18], [19]

In a word, the same law has governed Palaeontology ever since the beginning of life.[20]

What emerges from all this is that, measured in quantity of information, the evolution of life obeys an unchanging temporal law, of exponential form, from its origin 3,000,000,000 or 4,000,000,000 years ago, right up to the technology that we see developing now before our eyes.

My well-known paranoia inclines me to recognise that the appearance of Aimé Michel in this world will bring about a miraculous interruption in a *processus* that has been going on since the beginning of life on Earth. However, there are times when I doubt it, and wish that a little could be done to demonstrate to me the cosmic importance of the birth, around the early 1920s, of a small backward peasant in an out-of-the-way corner of the Alps.

Let us suppose indeed that the birth of this backward peasant has, definitely, absolutely no importance. What then would that mean?

KEY TO THE CHART

Since the close of the 19th century, the students of Prehistory have established a chronological classification of the cultures which have successively existed on Earth in the times prior to the beginnings of History. Each new culture leaves its traces upon the traces of the previous culture everywhere where it is possible to observe the succession (stratigraphic superposition). It has been possible to establish the order of succession (relative chronology) of the cultures long before the dating of them and the establishment of their duration (absolute chronology).

On this Chart, the data given indicate the stratigraphic order that is actually observed on the terrain, the oldest (the pebble culture) being thus at the bottom, and the most recent (iron) at the top. But the author (de Cayeux) has *conventionally* given equal intervals of time to the successive cultures on the Y-axis.

When new methods have permitted absolute datings it has been possible to make charts like this and show the time on the X-axis (horizontal). *A priori* there is no reason why the *conventional* attribution of equal time-intervals to the successive periods on the Y-axis should give, with the absolute chronology on the X-axis, a curve obeying a law. Well now, what we find is an exponential function of perfect regularity: on a logarithmic time scale the curve is a straight line. This means that human thought has never stopped progressing twice as fast, in every time-interval shown, as during the preceding interval of the same length. It will be observed that the arrival of *Homo Sapiens* passes unnoticed.

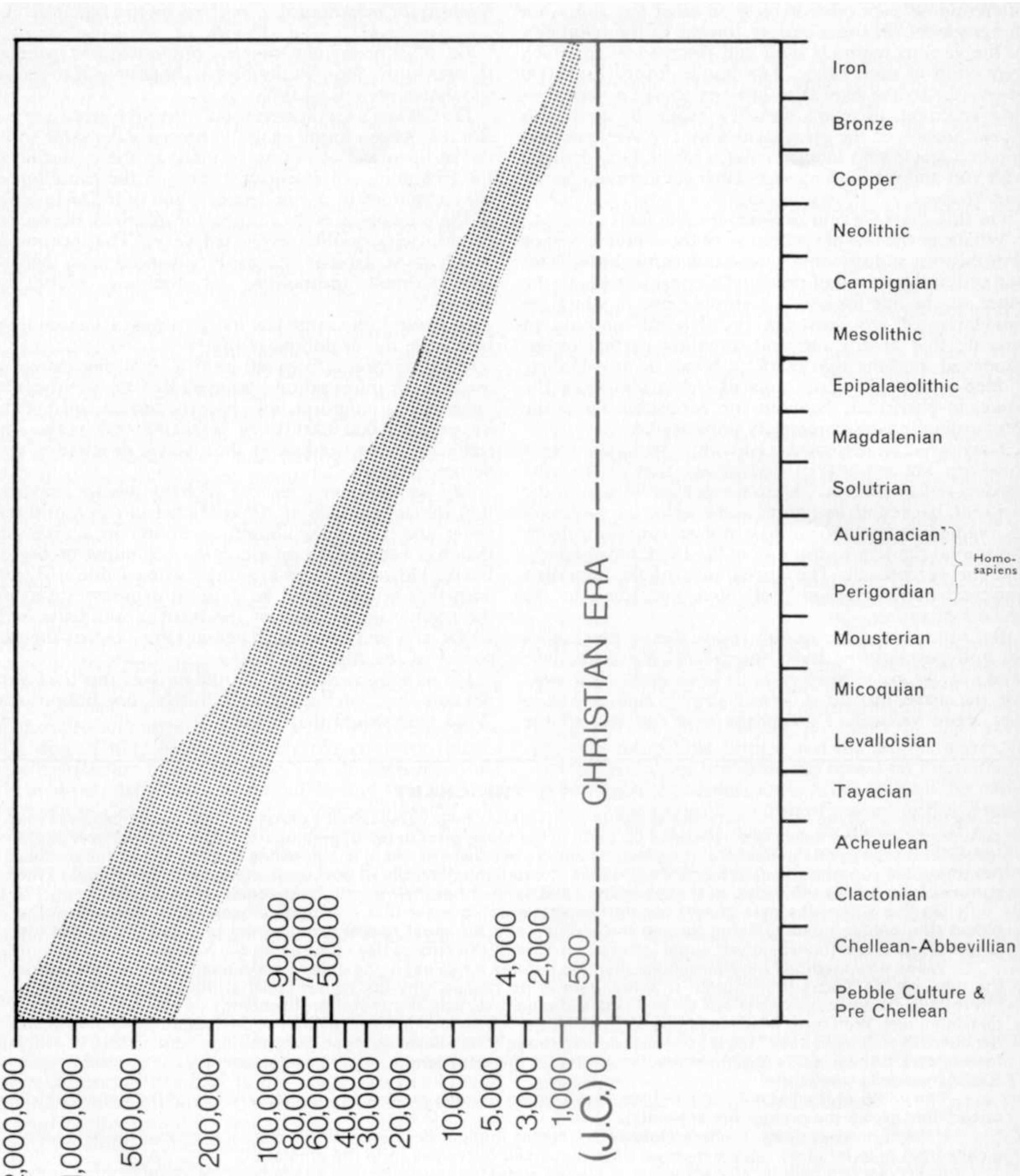
The width of the hatching symbolises the duration of each culture and the uncertainty of the dates (which uncertainty grows the greater the antiquity).

If the curve is prolonged into the future, this means that our descendants will distance themselves psychologically from man far more rapidly than we have distanced ourselves from the animal.

If this law is a general characteristic of life (as appears to be indicated by the book by Meyer quoted in the text) then a planet that has evolved a few thousand years further than the Earth might have inhabitants that are more superior to man than man is superior to the dog.

And as a matter of fact it so happens that this curve leads at the end to some physical impossibilities during the course of the 21st century, which fact would appear to imply a discontinuity in the history of mankind.

A.M.



Evolution of thought on earth through time, (after de Cayeux, 1969).

It would mean that the straight line on de Cayeux's graph will continue to be straight in the centuries to come just as it has been for 30 or 40 million centuries (the constancy of a law that has *never been disproved* so far).

And it would mean that—the exponential form of the law—our descendants will be as superior to us in thought in a few centuries or a few millennia from now as we are superior to our ancestor, the poor upright ape, stark naked, chasing after the Olduvai rabbits and eating them raw, as a dog does, fur and entrails and all.

And, in a word, that the mind and thought of the years 2,500 or 3,000, and their products, will be to our 20th century brains as a Mozart sonata, the electronics of my TV set, or the calculations of the Houston computers, are to the brain of my dog and to his piddles. I mean of course that, from us to those intelligences *irremediably incomprehensible* to the intelligence that we now possess in this 20th century, we shall move through a continuous progression. Yes, indeed! Continuous, just as from *Australopithecus* to us, as also from the slug to *Australopithecus*. The ufologists and the philosophers of the sciences will never reflect sufficiently upon *sorites*, that brilliant discovery of the Greek spirit, and upon the art of not being bald when one has lost every hair on one's head, every one without exception, but *one after the other*.

I shall perhaps be told that all this is indeed true for the past and demonstrated by the facts and figures established in Geology, Palaeontology, Prehistory, and the History of Technology, but that there is nothing to prove that the future will obey the same laws as the past. The times in which we are now living are—so it will be said—so different from everything that took place upon the Earth up to now and in the human species, that perhaps 20th-century Man really does represent the unsurpassable summit of all possible evolution whether on Earth or even in the whole Universe.[21]

To this argument I have sufficient theoretical and speculative answers to make a book weighing one kilo, which will not fail to provoke several other kilos of refutations. I shall therefore confine myself to answering with one single, solitary fact—only one, but one which has the merit of being a fact, of being irrefutable, and of proving that **already** there exist among us, in the bosom of Humanity, human beings possessed of minds superior to ours and functioning in a manner that is so far inexplicable. I am referring to the *lightning calculators*. These lightning calculators are the phenomenal folk who perform the most complicated calculations in their heads and in a few seconds.

To give you an idea of their gift, I shall cite the case of Paul Lidoreau, who died recently in Paris and who used to give, in a few seconds, and without ceasing to chat with the other person about some totally different subject, the square root of a seventeen-figure number and who, every night, to calm his mind and go to sleep, used to solve the following problem:

Being given any six-figure number, to break it down into the sum of five perfect squares and five perfect cubes which, added together, give the number proposed, with an error of less than one in a million. This problem, as can be seen, entails an infinity of solutions for each number: this is what entertained Lidoreau and put him peacefully to sleep every night.

An example proposed by Robert Tocquet (a professor at the Ecole d'Anthropologie in Paris)[22] was 724832.

In a little over two minutes, and while carrying on a conversation having no bearing on his calculations, Lidoreau offers the following solution:
Cubic roots: 48; 83; 26; 28; 10
Square roots: 40; 16; 4·358898900; 5·477225580; 4·472136

Having offered these figures, he immediately gives their cubes and their squares:
Cubes: 110592; 571787; 17576; 21952; 1000
Squares: 1600; 256; 18·999999620421210; 30·000000054206336400; 20·000000402496
And finally the sum of the cubes and squares:
724832·000000077123546400

All of which, I repeat, done in his head and in two minutes and a few seconds, and while talking about something else. Lidoreau is dead now but there are, alive in the world today, scores of calculators of the same power or even better. I know two of them in France, whom I have studied, just as I studied Lidoreau, who was my friend: they are Maurice Dagbert and Marius Portal.

The latest "with-it" idea (put forward by French and American psychiatrists whom I prefer not to name so as to be able to treat them as cretins) is that lightning calculators are *mentally sick people*. I have had correspondence with the best-known of these psychiatrists. He did not know that a considerable number of scientific geniuses were lightning calculators (Karl Friedrich Gauss, Leonhard Euler, François Arago, André-Marie Ampère, the Scottish mathematician A. C. Aitken, and so on). He was unaware that Portal was a highly esteemed teacher and pedagogue, and that Paul Lidoreau had made a fortune by setting up an industry of artistic bookbinding. All that he did know was that lightning calculators are to be found in mental hospitals. (Why indeed should lightning calculators be expected to be the only men never to go mad?)

I suggested to this psychiatrist that he himself was quite certainly mad according to his own method of reasoning, since he had black hair, and I knew several black-haired madmen who are shut up in psychiatric hospitals. I also begged him vigorously to inoculate me with the virus of mental calculating as soon as he discovered it, as I have no objection to doing my bookkeeping in my head, which is what Lidoreau used to do—instantaneously—in respect of the whole of the personnel of his factory.

The interest that lightning calculators exhibit for Ufology is manifold.

On the one hand, if one does succeed in understanding the calculating procedures that they employ, those procedures will still remain unusable by normal brains, for they presuppose performances that are outside of human possibilities. Marius Portal wrote a very detailed and very clear book explaining his procedures.[23] Those procedures are all of a beautiful simplicity. The sad thing however is that, in order to use them, you need, for example, to be capable of thinking simultaneously of two fifteen-figure numbers. (Lidoreau executed operations showing that he could think simultaneously

of ten numbers each having 36 figures; for example, he added them up in his head in about five minutes. Zacharias Dase was able to multiply, in his head, two 100-figure numbers.)

One of the most remarkable of the particular features of lightning calculators is *attention multifocalised at will:* they are able, whenever they so desire, to embark simultaneously on several high-level intellectual activities of different natures. Dagbert, who is an excellent violinist, can calculate while rendering very difficult pieces of music.

On the other hand, even the best of them are quite incapable of explaining how they go about it, though they declare that they understand it very clearly. Everything occurs as though they are manipulating concepts (but are they indeed concepts?) that are untranslatable into human language. "God has put these things into my head," Zerah Colburn used to say, "but as for myself, I should never know how to put them into *your* head."[22]

Finally, and this is perhaps the most instructive part of it all, *they vigorously dispute the idea of their own supernormality*.

I keep, preciously guarded in my files, the numerous letters that I have received from Portal and Dagbert, in which they try, by all manner of arguments, to prove that there are no lightning calculators and that what they do simply corresponds to the only normal means of thinking and that the obstinacy of other men in refusing (*sic*) to calculate as they do is incomprehensible. With me they have the same difficulty of understanding as my dog Dick, but in the opposite sense: here, in this case, it is *I* who am the dog.

I do not say that the gift of lightning calculation corresponds to a rare gene floating about in the genetic heritage of mankind and destined one of these days to multiply among men: I don't know about that, not being a biologist myself.

But what I do say, having spent a lot of time with the lightning calculators, is that if it were to come about that their gift should spread, the new humanity that they would constitute together would be intellectually a totally impenetrable one for us. What would social life be like, what would the economic, technological, and political organisation be like, what would the science or the pedagogy be, of beings who, like Zacharias Dase, Lidoreau, Aitken, Dagbert, are capable of manipulating, each second of their lives from the age of four years onwards, immense and uncountable numerical data? Will the reader who is able to think about this without being seized with vertigo please accept the expression of my highest respects! As for myself, in order not to go mad, I should hasten to ask the directors of that new humanity of lightning calculators to have an extra cage erected at the Vincennes Zoo, where the monkeys are, and to be good enough to accept me there till the end of my days, even if it were in the company of Dr. Condon.

Now lightning calculators are only slightly different from the rest of us. So far as I know, nobody has ever done an autopsy of the brain of any one of them, but externally there is generally nothing that distinguishes them from any other *Homo Sapiens*. That they are genetic phenomena has been suggested (but has certainly not been proved) by certain particular cases: for example, Marius Portal's son is also a lightning calculator; Uranie, the sister of the famous Greek calculator Pericles Diamandi, also possessed the gift herself; Zerah Colburn had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot; Prolongeau was born without arms or legs. All this suggests—but only suggests—a chromosomic phenomenon which is sometimes simple (as when the calculator is *only* a calculator, remaining in all other respects a man like the rest) and sometimes complex (as when a somatic mutation is at the same time also to be seen). In any event, if the lightning calculators are different from us, they are not *very* different—much less than, for example, Neanderthal man.

The moment has now come for us to apply our reflections to the problem of our dealings with the mind which is responsible for UFO phenomena or with any other supposedly superhuman mind—as in Project Ozma.

"Never forget," said Vauvenargues, "that what you know is nothing compared with what you don't know, and that what you don't know is nothing compared with what you will never know." Vauvenargues was a philosopher of the century of the Enlightenment. He believed in Reason and in its methods. He knew that knowledge cannot advance save by starting, at the outset, by making allowance for the unknowable, and that Science only began when men stopped theologising.

The unknowable, in Ufology, is the mind—if one can indeed call it a mind—that is hidden behind the phenomena. I am not saying that we should stop thinking about this unknowable, any more than it is necessary to be an atheist in order to be a good physicist. But what I am saying, paraphrasing Vauvenargues, is that, if it is desired to secure concrete results, our research must rigorously, and on all occasions, refrain from any hypothesising upon the nature of that mind. The further investigations now being carried on in France into the UFO wave of 1954 are bringing to light, almost regularly, a mass of new facts that had escaped me before because I already had certain ideas as to the possible nature of flying saucers: the saucers were (I thought) either facts of a collective psychopathy, or extraterrestrial devices, or secret military machines. The idea that (for example) the phenomena might be related to the psychopathology of the witnesses *and yet be materially real* had in those days never touched my mind, for such an idea was already ruled out in advance by my own implicit hypotheses. Because of this, I failed to perceive certain facts of primary importance, and we were retarded by years in our thinking. I am convinced that we are at present still blinded by a mass of implicit hypotheses (though our imagination has made some progress during the past few years) and that, in the same way, other facts of primary importance are still continuing to unfold before our eyes without our seeing them.

Ufology, so far as it is a science, is at present in the stage of coming into being, thanks to the investigative networks and the great electronically treated catalogues of which Vallée's will have been the first historic example. But our research is totally lacking in the philosophical reflection that would be capable of

supplying it with the orientations that Physics, in its first hesitant beginnings, once received from the *Instauratio Magna*, from the *Novum Organum*, from the *Discours de la Méthode*, and from the *Dialogues* of Galileo.

Lacking this preliminary reflection, we wander around at the mercy of our own personal whimsies, occasionally piddling among the stars with the same simplicity and artlessness as my dog Dick.

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[21] Voltaire has said all there is to be said on this ridiculous illusion (which was already rife 200 years ago) and notably he said the following: "Dieu a fait l'homme à son image, et l'homme le lui a bien rendu." ("God made man in his own image, and man has returned the compliment in good measure.")
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* **Translator's Note:** The French equivalents of (say) *Fido* and *Spot*.

Translation by Gordon Creighton

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(*Continued from page 13*)

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UFOPHENOMENA, BANBURY 1971

John D. Llewellyn

Following upon a small number of interesting UFO reports, local enthusiasts took over and succeeded in whipping up some excitement in the Banbury district. In no time at all claims were being bandied about involving "hundreds" of sightings. While it seemed that a large number of these were either misidentifications or imaginary, we asked our contributor, the Stratford-upon-Avon BUFORA investigator, to report on the kind of ingredients which went to make up the flap.

SOMEONE somewhere is watching over us, especially the Men from the Ministry of Defence who, in a blaze of publicity which includes leading headlines (*Banbury Guardian* of October 28, 1971), announce a full investigation of the 100 or more sightings which were reported over the Midlands and Oxfordshire in August, September and October 1971.

"More UFO Reports at Banbury"; "Mystery Object at Bretch Hill"; "Police Report Fireball over Banbury"; "The Witnesses of the Inexplicable"; "Are They Coming?"; "UFO Pattern Repeated"; "On the Track of Banbury UFOs"; Monster in the Park"; "Police See Mystery Light"—these are but a few of the recent headlines. The background noise has been at full volume with the usual small level of "signals" available for investigation.

Reports from North Oxfordshire mention: orange and red lights moving in the sky and being joined by other objects; strange objects at ground level giving out ear-piercing noises; pulsating noises in the sky from red lights; spaceman-like "thing" near to the new flyover on the Oxford-Banbury road. The main witness of the humanoid sighting of September 27 has "gone to ground", retreating from the eager pursuit of investigators, newsmen and other interested earthmen.

Humanoid report

The "victim", Mr. Len Delman, a lorry driver, was apparently just driving on to the new Bodycote flyover, coming into Banbury on the Oxford-Banbury road, when he saw what he thought to be a man in a white suit in the road directly in front of him. He put his foot hard on the brakes and also applied his "dead-man" brake. On screeching to a halt, thinking he may have hit the man, he jumped out of his cab, walked behind his lorry and, to his surprise, saw nothing. He then walked to the front of the lorry and there in the headlights was a "spaceman" (as he actually described it), about 7-8ft. tall, with big staring eyes 8-12in. apart and extending to the sides of the head. He also noticed a pack on the "spaceman's" back, with two pipes coming from his head and leading to the pack. He said the pipes at first looked like horns.

Mr. Delman says he got back in his cab and sounded his horn about eight times, and that the "thing" then jumped up in the air about three feet (!), ran across the road and actually leapt the hedge. At this time two other lorries arrived on the scene, one from the direction of Banbury, the other from behind Mr. Delman's lorry. Together all three drivers, and a mate, watched a disc-shaped object taking off from the field where the humanoid had disappeared. The drivers reported this incident to the police.

Banbury Police are sending all reports of UFOs seen in the area to the Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry state that sightings have reached such proportions that they are ready to conduct their own investigations. Inspector Raymond Sayer said (*Coventry Evening Telegraph*, October 28) that some further sightings were made by members of the public and police officers on duty the night before.

P.Cs involved

P.C. Perry Jackson and Cadet William Byron were walking near the water tower at Bretch Hill, Banbury, when they saw an orange-coloured object moving across the sky. The time was 9.40 p.m., and it was a clear moonlit night with the stars clearly visible. Said Cadet Byron: "It was the size of a golf ball to us. We saw it as an orange glow for about three seconds. It went down at an angle of about 45°. This is the first time I have seen a UFO; it has convinced me they exist." Another report of a fireball came from Mr. Richard Fisher of Hook Norton, and on the same evening objects were sighted over Charlton and Adderbury (*Banbury Guardian*, November 4).

The *Oxford Mail* of September 8 reported that Police Sergeant Fred Tildesley and River Police Constable M. Shove observed a UFO, or "some such object", which according to reports was spotted simultaneously by thousands of people throughout the country. The object, which looked circular and glowed, was pinpointed as being situated below the constellation of the Plough. This we now know was caused by the release of a fluorescent chemical cloud at a height of about 50 miles from a meteorological research rocket from South Uist on September 7. Such an explanation could not account for the mysterious and frightening monster creature seen on several occasions around the Stockham Park Housing Estate at Wantage.

Hairy monster report

"It" was first seen in Denchworth Road at 5.30 a.m. on September 25. Later, on the same day, a Miss Linda Milne of East Challow witnessed a tall hairy creature going into the woods near the old Wantage Canal. B.B.C. Radio Oxford recorded an interview with two fourteen-year-old boys who stated that they were chased by it, they threw stones at it, and it ran towards them. They jumped over a gate and the "thing" did the same, and later they observed a disc take off from the field nearby. Is there a connection between these

incidents? A personal letter from Linda Milne described the occurrence vividly and there is no doubt of the fear in the neighbourhood.

From the total number of reports covering the period, only very few were of near-to or near-landed objects. On September 18, in daylight, a well-defined dumb-bell-shaped object was observed over Banbury. On September 28, again in daylight, a hovering cigar-type UFO was seen over the Ruscote Estate, Banbury. A dull grey cigar was observed moving slowly over the market-place on September 20. There were a number of circular objects seen over fields throughout September and a globular UFO seen lower than the trees over Overthorpe on September 28. An interesting feature of this one was the disturbance of sheep which scattered—of particular interest for Gordon Creighton's with regard to his catalogue of effects of UFOs on animals.

On September 29, in the evening, a UFO with blinding light was witnessed over a football pitch by over two hundred spectators and the players; this literally stopped play. Six witnesses had observed a disc near a sports ground on the previous evening. Flashes of light from treetop height were observed by villagers at Hanwell on September 22. On the same date, a green object was seen moving with the train by the driver on the Banbury to Leamington Spa line. Loud noises were given off by a disc-shaped UFO over some fields on August 18, according to three witnesses. Car drivers were dazzled at night by a "thing" in the road at Shennington. A Miss A. Flowers observed a circular craft, with many lights, on the night of October 22.

Spectacular low-level sighting

A highlight among these reports came from a personal correspondent, Mr. A. Burton, who gave details of a sighting on Tuesday, October 26, at 7.50 p.m. His letter ran:

"My wife and I were driving from Shutforth (Banbury) when, approaching crossroads, we saw a row of lighted windows shining over the top of the hedgerow. To the left of these windows was a quick flashing red light. I realised that this was something unusual and stopped my car. Both of us got out and, quite flabbergasted, watched this machine. It had begun to ascend and moved to the right. Then in a flash it was gone. The amazing thing was that there was not a sound of an engine or of any swishing—just a complete silence. Believe me when I say this was a definite fact. I would say it was some 50 yards in diameter, and hovered well below 500 feet to start with.

"If I say I am convinced now that there is such an object, I would be making an understatement. Both of us *know* there is such a machine in existence. I telephoned

(*Continued on page 28*)

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DOUBTS ABOUT THE LIFJELL FILM

Charles Bowen

ON June 30, 1954, three Scandinavian aircraft, carrying between them some 50 people, including scientific observers, cameramen and journalists, took off with their parties who were to observe and film the eclipse of the sun. One film, taken at 2.17 p.m. while travelling at 340 m.p.h. at 15,000ft. near Lifjell, Telemark, Norway, included a sequence on which two glowing discs were seen.

This film has been looked upon as one of the reasonably interesting items of "evidence" since an account of the incident was published in an early number of *Flying Saucer Review*, yet it now appears there have always been doubts about the authenticity of the film. Apparently the story—that here was a moving picture of two UFOs—was denied emphatically at the time by three members of the expedition. An article under their signatures appeared in the newspaper *Aftenposten* on October 14, 1954, before *Flying Saucer Review* came into existence. Our account appeared in the issue for January/February 1956, and at that time we had few, if any, readers and correspondents in Norway, so it does not surprise me that a copy of the *Aftenposten* item never reached us. Our version of the incident came from a London source which we had every reason to believe reliable.

Recapitulation

Waveney Girvan represented the *Review* at a private press showing in London of the Swedish Travel Bureau film. This was introduced by the Bureau's London Press Officer, Mr. E. Graham, who stated that he had been one of the observers. We published a description of the incident which we took from Mr. Graham's report on the eclipse. He said:

"I was about to put a new film in my camera when my attention was distracted by Mr. Johansen pointing towards the Northern horizon and crying out above the engine noise 'What the hell is that?'

"I looked out of the porthole and observed two shiny discs travelling across the horizon.

"By now the entire party were watching the objects, nobody thinking of getting a camera on to them.

"After we had studied the objects for a while, Mr. Bjørnulf dashed across the floor to get his camera. He searched for a while, the other cameramen urging him to hurry. It was only then that we realised that we were watching something which none of us believed in—so-called 'Flying Saucers'.

"We were still discussing, shouting at each other—and when the objects began to disappear pandemonium broke loose as everyone tried to get their camera ready first. By then Mr. Bjørnulf trained his object finder on the discs and began filming.

"The objects were clearly revolving and showed 'stern-lines'. I am not certain these 'lines' may have been a kind of exhaust fumes.

"It was impossible to estimate their speed, or their size. I assume, however, that as the objects were about 15-20 miles away, the speed (and their size) must have been far beyond anything achieved by man-made aeroplanes.

"I am basing this assumption on the fact that the objects *were out in the sun, while we were still in the shadow of the eclipse*. The shadow extended at least 15 miles north of our position. I cannot offer any opinion as to what these objects were, or where they might have come from."

Waveney Girvan reported that there were, at the conference, some who suggested that the objects seen in the film were reflections in the windows of the plane . . . "regardless of the fact that Mr. Graham had stated that there were no window-glasses for they had been removed to avoid such reflections. Also, the objects were seen from each of the three planes."

That, in brief, is how we have known the story of the Lifjell film for more than 15 years.

The other side of the coin

Mr. Julian Hennessey, NICAP representative in this country, told me a few months ago that he had decided to probe into the history of this film. I asked him to keep me informed, and suggested that he should tread warily—in view of the fact that so much time had elapsed since the incident. He did keep me informed: indeed it would seem, from the dates of the letters he had received in answer to his probing, that he had already done his re-investigation when he got in touch with me. First of all he had written to the "Norwegian Astronomical Society", and his letter found its way to Dr. Eberhard Jensen of the Institute of Theoretical Physics at the University of Oslo.

Professor Jensen, who had been a member of the 1954 expedition to photograph the eclipse, wrote on March 31, 1970, to explain that he had not been in the aircraft carrying Mr. Bjørnulf, but in one flying on a parallel course. He said that the *Heron* aircraft in which he was travelling had open hatches, but that Mr. Bjørnulf took his film through a closed window and that the UFOs were "reflections". Mr. Hennessey was recommended to write to Mr. Rolf Brahde, associate professor at the University of Oslo, who had also been a member of the expedition.

Still shot taken from the Lifjell film of June 30, 1954

In a letter dated April 13, 1970, Mr. Brahde told how, after the eclipse party had returned, Mr. Bjørnulf announced his flying saucers to the press and *Aftenposten* published a 4-page article on the affair. At that point an American member of the party, Dr. Garwick, proposed that reflections satisfactorily explained the phenomenon, whereupon Mr. Bjørnulf announced that the windows of the aeroplane were open during the flight.

Mr. Brahde further revealed that he, Dr. Garwick, and another member of the expedition, Mr. H. C. Christensen, went to Fornebu airfield and arranged for a similar aeroplane to be wheeled out and ". . . placed in the same direction as regards the position of the sun. Then we saw . . ." he continued, "exactly the same pattern as was shown on Bjørnulf's film."

Mr. Brahde also revealed that the man who shot the film was *not* Bjørnulf, but a man named Conradi. When Mr. Brahde tackled Mr. Bjørnulf about the UFO story when it had appeared in the press, he was told that Mr. Conradi was away on holiday. Nevertheless Mr. Brahde telephoned, and spoke to Mr. Conradi, and later met him when the latter confirmed that the windows had been closed as it was impossible to be in the cabin with open windows.

Dr. Garwick also wrote to Mr. Hennessey. His letter was dated April 12, 1970, and it contains the following passage:

"The original of the film shows the 'elliptical lights' referred to by you as being blobs of light with two extensions going out at right angles. If the pictures were taken through a window with panes, the effect would be completely explained as a reflex from a window behind the photographer, partially blotted out by a man's shoulder. This was accepted by Mr. Bjørnulf and his attorney. The two last windows on the port side of the plane had been removed and everybody, including the photographer, were of the opinion that the pictures had been taken through window No. 2, i.e. through a window without panes so no reflections could appear.

"The team (Brahde, Garwick and Christensen—C.B.) took pictures out of the last three windows with the same camera which was used on the flight. These pictures were superimposed upon the pictures showing the light spots, and it was found that the wing perspective fitted exactly for the picture from the third (paned) window, and with no others."

An article signed by Brahde, Garwick and Christensen in which Mr. Bjørnulf's claims about his film were refuted, was published in *Aftenposten* on October 14, 1954, together with a statement by Mr. R. Conradi.

* * * * *

The emergence (in English) after 17 years of these completely different versions of the circumstances under which the Lifjell film was taken, does not prove that the original version was wrong. However, even without the backing of the photographic evidence, the second version sounds convincing enough (as also, no doubt, would a version put out by someone wishing to debunk the film just for the sake of debunking it!). The very existence of this second version throws serious doubts on the validity of the film, and therefore on its value to UFO research.

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DID A LASER CREATE THE "DEVIL'S FOOTPRINTS"?

By George Lyall

Our contributor, whose identity is guarded by a *nom-de-plume,* is an ophthalmic surgeon. In his covering letter he writes: "The connection of ideas occurred to me one day whilst I was busy making a nice line of neat little burns on a patient's retina with our laser ophthalmoscope." He sent the idea to a scientist who is a reader of *Flying Saucer Review* and who suggested we might be interested in it—as indeed we are, for the subject of the "Devil's Footprints" was considered in an article, published in 1966, about a mysterious and unidentified cog-like wheel which was observed perambulating about the French countryside.*

THIS is an exercise in applying new knowledge towards the solution of an old mystery. It can be seen to have a strong connection with the problem of flying saucers, and indeed may be said to adduce strong evidence of their mechanisms and activities.

* * * * *

The recent development in scientific expertise which is to be considered is the *Laser*.

First demonstrated in 1960, it was shown possible to produce a new form of radiation. This became known, from the initial letters of the process (*L*ight *A*mplification by *S*timulated *E*mission of *R*adiation) as the Laser.

The Laser beam has some unique properties:

(a) It contains energy of a very high power density.
(b) This energy can be concentrated into a beam of very small area.
(c) The beam is a parallel one so that its energy content does not diverge over a wide area.
(d) The radiation content of the beam has a uniform wavelength.
(e) The radiation can be emitted in short, powerful pulses.

Because of (a), (b), and (c), one can see that a laser beam can be aimed very accurately in any desired direction or at any desired target. Should any physical obstacle interrupt the beam, the light in accordance with natural laws will be either reflected or absorbed. If light is absorbed, its energy content becomes converted to heat. The laser beam contains immensely concentrated radiation and so is capable of producing intense heat and very high temperatures when it is interrupted.

The properties (d) and (e) are also of value. It enables the beam to be used as a very accurate distance measurer, or range finder. This can be done by timing the travel of single pulses, by using the constant wavelength of the beam to produce interference patterns in emitted and reflected beams, or by using frequency modulation of the beam.

The laser, then, provides a narrow, manoeuvrable, parallel beam of intense light of uniform wavelength which, on meeting a solid surface, will release its energy as reflected light, or heat, or usually in a mixture of these two ways.

It remains only to note that the cross-section of the beam may be modified by suitable screening.

The mysterious phenomena to be considered in reference to laser beams are:

(a) The marks seen in the snow in Devon in February 1855, which came to be known as the "Devil's Footprints."
(b) Those other horse-shoe shaped marks on rock which have from time to time been reported.

The "Devil's footprints"

The "Devil's Footprints" of Devon are well known to students of the mysterious. The best account is in Commander Gould's book *Oddities*.

Briefly, on the morning of February 8, 1855, on the fresh surface of snow fallen in the night, were seen marks which were quite unfamiliar in appearance to all who saw them. Resembling horseshoe prints, the marks were evenly spaced in a single line, making a trail which crossed fields and walled gardens, to leave marks on the tops of houses and walls, making in all a track which crossed two large river estuaries and was estimated to be at least forty and possibly one hundred miles long. Each print was about four inches by two and a half across, and the regular interval between them eight inches.

Nobody knows what made them. Many speculations have been made, all unsatisfactory. The prints suggested irresistibly those of a donkey's hooves, and the concept of an animal origin became obsessive. Badgers, mice, a rare arctic bird, kangaroos and a strange monster from the sea are amongst the suggestions put forward. The unnatural shape and regularity of the prints, together with the eccentricity of the antics which any of these beasts would have had to perform, seem however to rule out natural history from the story.

Perhaps the correspondent with the clearest vision was he who wrote at the time: "It was quite inexplicable that the animal, considering the scale of the foot, should leave, in single file, one print only, and as has already been observed, with intervals as exactly preserved as if the prints had been made by a drill or any other mechanical frame." The relentless progress of the tracks over all obstacles, its regular spacing and the tremendous distance covered all point indeed to a mechanical origin of the phenomenon.

Bearing in mind the unique properties of the laser, it will be seen that here is a mechanical device capable of producing exactly the trail seen on the snow in Devon. A travelling pulsed laser beam leaving little melted,

* *Cross-country cog wheels*, by Charles Bowen, FSR Vol. 12, No. 5 (September/October 1966).

indeed vapourised, areas. There are several points in the contemporary accounts which seem to lend support to such a theory.

"The most singular circumstances connected with it was that this particular mark removed the snow, whenever it appeared, clear, as if cut with a diamond, or branded with a hot iron . . ." No better description could be given of a laser burn!

An eye-witness writes: "The marks which appeared on the snow (which lay very thinly on the ground at the time) . . ." Contemporary articles emphasise the extremity of cold of the preceding months. There had been long hard frost; both the Thames and Exe rivers were covered with thick ice. The thin sno v on cold earth in an icy atmosphere would provide an ideal medium for the production of clear-cut laser burns. The beam would absorb into the earth immediately beneath the snow, liberating its contained energy as local heat which could vapourise the contiguous snow, leaving the surrounding crisp snow intact.

"The footprints were to be seen in all kinds of inaccessible places—on the tops of houses and narrow walls, in gardens and courtyards enclosed by high walls and palings, as well as in open fields." None of these places, in fact, is inaccessible to a beam from above.

"A scientific acquaintance of mine informed me of his having traced the same prints across a field up to a haystack. The surface of the stack was wholly free from marks of any kind, but on the opposite side of the stack, in a direction exactly corresponding with the tracks thus traced, the prints began again!" The relatively loosely packed and non-pigmented texture of the stack may very well transmit a laser beam of a particular wavelength without translating it into heat in the manner of the harder darker soil. The beam would pass through snow and haystack, liberating heat only on reaching the ground, and so leaving no marks in the snow on the haystack. The same characteristic of the laser beam might account for marks being found "under gooseberry-bushes and espalier fruit-trees." A similar effect occurs in treatment of the retina of the eye, where the ruby laser beam passes unaltered through transparent tissues to "explode" and produce the required burn in the deeper pigmented layers of tissue.

A laser-produced phenomenon?

Much of the evidence concerning the "Devil's Footprints" would support the concept of a laser-produced phenomenon.

But supposing such a beam to have been the cause, there must have been a laser supported above the countryside, emitting regular pulses of laser light and moving steadily to and fro over the villages ("There was hardly a garden in Lympstone where the footsteps were not observed") and then across country and river, to the extent of a hundred miles or so. Whatever may have made the marks, the time factor is relevant and must be considered.

The marks were reported as being some eight inches apart. Commander Gould calculates that even allowing a time of fourteen hours for the production of the trail, a minimum of six steps per second is required. And as he says, six steps a second for fourteen hours by any one animal is unthinkable.

Let us assume an arbitrary speed over ground of sixty miles an hour. To produce eight-inch intervals a laser would have to pulse at one hundred and thirty-two discharges per second. This is not beyond the powers of contemporary lasers. Brown writes of a system designed to operate at repetition rates between 50 and 120 per second, and of a gas laser from which pulse rates of five thousand per second are expected. Pulsed laser light in fact appears to be the most reasonable method so far suggested of achieving the high frequency which this trail implies.

It is interesting to note that an Air to Ground Laser Range Finder has been developed for use in helicopters. Operating indefinitely at one pulse per second, it is said to measure ranges between 200 metres and 5 kilometres with an accuracy of 5 metres. (Whether this machine produces "Devil's Footprints" is not recorded.)

A discussion on the use of laser in aircraft automatic landing systems mentions the use of a laser with a pulse capability of up to 10 per second. These applications show that the use of laser as a range-finder is a very practical proposition.

This then is the case for the "Devil's Footprints" having been produced by pulses of laser light. On their meaning and function it may be pointless to speculate, but it may be relevant to remember that the fresh fall of snow on to the frozen ground and ice-covered rivers would surely confuse landmarks and make navigation by visual means almost impossible.

Rock markings

Horseshoe-shaped marks on rocks have been reported. Relevant to these is the fact that mining engineers have shown that rocks of various species are considerably weakened by laser applications. Removal of rock from a tunnel face can be facilitated by subjecting it first to laser radiation, and laboratory tests show a very great reduction in the load required to fracture granite and marble specimens. The weakening effect of the beam extends to four or five inches below the surface of the rock.

It follows that the impact of a laser beam of horseshoe cross-section such as has been considered with reference to marks in the snow could also cause marks on rock surfaces—in time. Time would enable the normal weathering and erosion processes to act selectively on the area softened by the beam, and so gradually form a relative depression.

References

The "Devil's Footprints"

Oddities. A Book of Unexplained Facts by Lt.-Cdr. R. T. Gould. Geoffrey Bles, London, 1944.

Great World Mysteries by Eric Frank Russell. Dobson Books Ltd., and Mayflower Books, 1962.

Lasers

Lasers by Ronald Brown. Business Books Limited. London, 1969. (Almost all the information contained above is gleaned from this useful book.)

New Scientist, Vol. 42, No. 645, p. 123.

Editor's comment: In his correspondence with me Mr. Lyall states that he does not know to what extent lasers have been discussed in connection with our subject. He suggests that both the flashes of light reported from UFOs, and the burns stated to have been sustained by some observers, could be laser effects.

A NEW FSR CATALOGUE

The effects of UFOs on animals, birds and smaller creatures Part 11

HERE is another instalment of our catalogue, prepared by Gordon Creighton, who tells us that the list has grown considerably since the last instalment was published in our number for July/August 1971.

The Catalogue—(xi) January/September 1969

169. Childers, Queensland, Australia (January 17, 1969).
George Vas, a Rumanian immigrant, claimed that at 4.30 a.m. he and his wife and two teenage daughters, who were asleep in a caravan trailer at the side of the road, were awakened by the barking of their dog, Ica. They heard a loud buzzing noise, "like a swarm of wasps" and, looking out, saw a machine of a brilliant violet and iridescent colour, about 25-30 yards in diameter, from which there descended three entities, with "blocky arms and legs and shapeless bodies, giving off a purple-yellowish glow, and three times the size of humans." For ten minutes they watched the creatures gathering sugar cane and other plant specimens.

The News, Adelaide, January 17, 1969; FSR, May/June 1969.

170. Saint-Martin-de-Londres, Montpellier, France (1.00 a.m., February 9, 1969).
The owner of a restaurant and a small goat farm, and his assistant, were driving past when they saw a large disc which remained stationary for some time above the field where the goats were. The goat farmer told investigators:

"*My goats, which were beneath the stationary disc, or very near to it, do not seem to have suffered by it, although the nannies are now 'coming on heat' much more often than is natural. But one was a billy-goat, an excellent breeder, and, as a result of it, I had to have him slaughtered, for he no longer performed his job.*"

He added that there had been all sorts of other strange phenomena on his farm. For example, ever since the night in question, his dogs always started barking furiously precisely at 2.00 o'clock every morning, as though there were something abnormal going on outside.

Lumières Dans La Nuit, No. 100 bis. (July 1969). Also, *Near-Landing in Hérault*, in FSR for January/February 1970.

171. Pirassununga, State of São Paulo, Brazil (5.40 a.m., February 12, 1969).
The farm worker Luiz Flozino de Oliveira was on his way to work when he was approached and attacked by two strange beings, 1·5 metres in height, with darkish skins and beards down to their waists. His dog rolled up in a ball on the ground for protection and was not harmed.

SBEDV Bulletin No. 72/73 (January/April 1970, and *FSR Case Histories*, Supp. 5 (June 1971), p. 10.

172. Château des Martins, Bignoux, Poitiers, France (on a moonless night, about February 16, 1969).
Five horses in a paddock in the grounds of the Château were thrown into a tremendous panic by "something shining," with a pair of intensely bright eyes . . . of a very pale and particularly brilliant green," according to the witness, Monsieur Meingault. Going out into the grounds on hearing the horses stampeding past he caught sight of the eyes situated behind a clump of bushes (and at a height from the ground, so he was able to estimate next day, of about 1 m. 15 cm.). He re-entered the Château to get his gun, and on coming out again, glimpsed what appeared to be a "flying shadow" pursuing the horses. Examination of the premises next morning showed that much material damage had been done by the terrified animals.

Jean-Claude Baillon: *Eerie Night at the Château des Martins*, FSR, July/August 1970.

173. Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil (February 20, 1969).
The boy Helder Souza Lima, living at rua Jundiaí No. 205, heard the dog barking as though frightened and saw, touching the outer wall of the house, an object which was flattened on top and oval below. He called his brother Egler, and they watched the object for two minutes. Its upper portion was intensely bright and had balls of various colours attached to it.

Correio da Manhã, Rio de Janeiro, February 22, 1969, also Dr. W. Buhler: "Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969" (Part 4), *FSR Case Histories*, Supp. 5 (June 1971), p. 10.

174. Pirassununga, Brazil (night, on or about February 20, 1969).
Hearing his pigs grunting rather strangely in their sties, the manager of the Bela Aliança Fazenda went outside to investigate, and observed the landing of a UFO approximately 5 metres high and 4 metres wide, supported by a wide-footed tripod about 1½ m. high. Three crew members emerged on a cat-walk around the machine and busied themselves with instruments for two or three minutes.

O Globo, Rio de Janeiro, April 5, 1969, and Dr. W. Buhler, "Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969" (Part 4), *FSR Case Histories*, Supp. 5 (June 1971).

175. Lancaster, U.S.A. (10.30 p.m., March 10, 1969).
A housewife was driving in her car when she saw a bright beam of light on the road, and a charcoal-grey disc in the sky, emitting the light beam from a bulge on its underside. The beam fell upon the car and at once her speed dropped from 50 m.p.h. to 8 m.p.h. Meanwhile, her dog jumped from the back seat to the front of the car and appeared "highly agitated and fearful."

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 11 (May 1969), p. 3.

176. Ibiuna, State of Sâo Paulo, Brazil (March and April 1969).
From 9.00 p.m. onwards "balls of orange light" would appear frequently and dance about over a dry spring on the Fazenda Bonanza farm. Usually two in number and of the apparent size of car headlamps (approximately 18 cms. in diameter), the "egotistical lights," as local people called them, would remain for about one hour and then vanish as suddenly as they had come. Just before their arrival, all the pigs, dogs, geese, and fowls on the farm would always begin to make a loud disturbance, giving the witnesses the impression that these animals and birds were experiencing fear and pain of some sort.

Hans Bemelmans: *Reports From Ibiuna*. In FSR, January/February 1970.

177. Itauçu, State of Goiáz, Brazil (evening of April 20, 1969).

Adelino Roque, an illiterate 25-year-old farm worker, of the Fazenda Serradinho, 57 miles from Goiânia, was riding near the Rio Serradinho when he paused to let his horse drink. A bright light which he had previously noticed in the sky behind him now came down low over him and alarmed the horse. After riding a further distance of 100 metres or so, he felt himself "hypnotised" by a cold beam of light which struck him on the back. Bereft of feeling he tried to ride on, and another beam of light, in this case accompanied by great heat, struck him in the chest. He was aware of something coming down low over his head and paralysing him, and he felt himself being drawn off the horse.

The horse made its way back unharmed, though frightened, to the farm. Adelino Roque recovered consciousness at 5.00 o'clock next morning and found himself alone upon a rock beside the bank of the river Parnaíba, at a place called Itumbiara, some 250 kilometres or so from where he had watered his horse. Profoundly disturbed and ill and changed by his experience, Roque finally died in very mysterious circumstances on June 12, 1969, at Itauçu.

Diário de Notícias, Rio de Janeiro, May 24, 1969; *Folha de Goiáz*, June 12 and 13, 1969; SBEDV Bulletin No. 72/73. Also Gordon Creighton: *Another Teleportation And Its Sequel*, FSR for September/October 1971.

178. Hammond, Ontario, Canada (8.30 p.m., April 22, 1969).
An Ottawa man, his wife, and their teenage son were driving along a deserted stretch of road during a rainstorm. Their dog was in the car with them. They saw a thirty-foot wide "saucer", with two large spotlights and many portholes, standing in a field. It emitted a "heavy, humming sound, like a huge generator." When the UFO took off, flew around, and approached the car, the dog became extremely frightened.

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 11 (May 1969), p. 4.

179. Farnworth, Lancashire, England (evening, April 28, 1969).
Dogs in the area began howling and whining when an unidentified flying object landed on golf links in the Plodder Lane area of Farnworth, reported 13-years-old Elaine Hodgkinson and her boy friend Peter Rushton, who were out walking with Elaine's dog Scamp.

Elaine, of Mill Hill, Little Hulton, said she and Peter saw a large buzzing object land on the nearby golf links.

"It came down from the sky slowly. It was grey in colour and had three red lights on the side and a green flashing one on the top. It was big enough to hold a man. My dog went absolutely wild. It really was a terrifying experience. I haven't seen anything like it before and I certainly wouldn't like to see one again. Even Peter was frightened."

The couple walked away quickly towards Farnworth, and a second UFO came over, flying much higher and making no buzzing noise.

The girl's parents informed the police, who searched the area but found nothing.

Bolton Evening News, April 29, 1969 (credit to Miss Janet Gregory).

180. Allumette Island, Quebec, Canada (2.00 a.m., May 11, 1969).
Mr. and Mrs. Leo P. Chaput were alerted by the loud barking of their dog, and saw a stationary bright light shining into their bedroom window. They also heard a "soft purring, similar to the noise of an outboard motor." The UFO was close to the ground, brightly illuminating the surroundings, its light too vivid for them to be able to look directly at it.

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 12 (June/July 1969), p. 4.

181. Vina, California, U.S.A. (2.30 a.m., May 24, 1969).
Tom Kitchen, a ranch hand, was working the night-shift when he observed an object "as big as a small bus, illuminating a plum orchard about 150 yards away", and hovering just above the trees. He went to awaken his foreman, John Sharp, but found that Sharp had already been aroused by his dog, which was "quite upset".

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV. No. 12 (June/July 1969), p. 2.

182. Birkenhead, England (11.40 p.m., June 15, 1969).
A mysterious disc-shaped object flying over the Fender at Birkenhead startled a security officer and his Alsatian guard dog (term used in Britain for the German shepherd dog). Mr. Neil Piper, aged 37, was patrolling a Birkenhead Corporation housing estate in Noctorum Lane when he heard a swishing sound overhead, similar to the hum of a generator.

"I looked up and saw a disc-shaped object, silvery underneath and glowing around the rim," said Mr. Piper, of 66 Fender View Road, Moreton. "It was not travelling very fast, and looked about the size of a dinner plate, although I could not tell what height it was flying at. It came over from the direction of the Woodchurch housing estate and then passed over Moreton. Even my dog cowered right down and was scared, whimpering and yelping."

Liverpool Daily Post and *Liverpool Echo*, June 16, 1969 (credit to Miss Janet Gregory). Also *Birkenhead News*, June 18, 1969, and see FSR, September/October 1969, p. 35.

183. Zellik, Belgium (8.10 p.m., September 24, 1969).
Architect Kamiel Breeus was taking his shepherd dog for an evening walk when he saw two large silent fluorescent machines with delta-shaped wings appearing from the North. Both gave off fiery exhaust trails, and the edges of the triangular wings were lit with a hazy bluish-white light. The underparts were of a soft red colour and inside the machines there seemed to be lights which were flashing on and off. Both craft stopped in their flight, one of them remaining stationary for five minutes. The dog reacted to them by barking furiously.

Het Nieuwsblad, October 8, 1969.

UFOPHENOMENA, BANBURY 1971 (*continued from page 21*)

the local paper and told the chief reporter what we had witnessed, but I don't think he realised how earnest I was, or how close we were to this phenomenon. You might be interested to know that I am a person with an extremely logical mind and am not one to enlarge, or let my imagination play a part. Just one other thing, which we didn't think about until afterwards, and that was the fact that we had no fear at the time, only extreme excitement and curiosity. The sky was very dark and the rest of the machine was hidden by the lights which were yellow."

Throughout this wave of activity, Midlands ATV *Today* team covered quite a number of the events, interviewing Anthony Pace, Roger Stanway, Richard Colbourne, Keith Palmer (who says he is compiling a report for the Ministry of Defence) and the author, and including the classic three-day coverage of the UFO film taken by their camera crew whilst filming at Enstone. Ministry officials and the R.A.F. expressed great interest, and the incident is still under investigation.

Editor's note: We are planning to report on the case of the ATV film, with the collaboration of Mr. Roger Stanway, Chairman of BUFORA, in a future issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

UFOs RELIABLY REPORTED . . .

Airline pilots' sightings in North California

William Murphy

Our contributor is a reader of long-standing of *Flying Saucer Review* and an APRO investigator. He lives in Redding, California.

FOR your records, I would like to submit two older sightings. One from the early 1950s and the other dated June of 1968. Both were by qualified and reputable commercial pilots known to (and recently interviewed by) me.

Observation near Shasta Lake

On a June afternoon in 1968, Mr. Jack Humphrey—who is now a high school teacher but was then flying commercially—and his teen-age son were outside their summer cabin on O'Brien Mountain near Shasta Lake in North California.

"Look at that" said the young Humphrey, pointing to the WNW at about a 45° elevation. They saw a cigar-shaped object loping lazily towards them and heading SSE while maintaining a constant altitude. Mrs. Humphrey was a later witness. It turned end over end, but inclined at a slight angle from the vertical.

When I first heard of the sighting from Mr. Humphrey in 1968 he said it was as large as a cigarette held at arm's length. More recently he felt in retrospect that it was not so large, perhaps as big as a Boeing 707 fuselage at about 30,000ft. However, as it was not observing aero-dynamic principles, it was presumed to be beyond the atmosphere. If either estimate is close, and if it were at an altitude of 50 miles, it must have been of prodigous dimensions. If it were lower, it would have had to be burning up unless air friction were somehow controlled.

The colour of the cigar was silver or aluminium, and a wisp of smoke unlike a vapour trail came from the blunt end. There was no noise. Jet noise is usually easily audible in the quiet woods.

As the object departed to the South East, an orange and white object was seen to detach from or be ejected by the cigar. After a short falling leaf descent the orange and white object moved off to the North East. Mr. Humphrey and his son thought the orange and white device was a parachute, and they thought they could detect its cargo dangling below as it wobbled. But this seemed unlikely when the thing moved off horizontally and at too great a speed for even a guided parachute.

The "cigar" was observed for three or four minutes and the "parachute" for ten minutes or more.

When Mr. Humphrey was able to get to a phone he called the FAA Flight Service Station at Red Bluff and talked to a controller whom he knew. The FAA agent said that they knew of the incident and that a military jet had checked it out. (The Humphreys had observed a single-engined jet apparently following the track that the orange and white object had taken.) The FAA *thought* it probably was a rocket launched from Vandenberg AFB, over 400 miles to the South East. If it were that it must have decided to turn around and go home, because it (the cigar) was going South East.

As far as I know neither this sighting nor the one that follows has been published elsewhere.

Montagu airport incident

Mr. Leo Purinton has been flying the skies of Northern California and the world for more than three decades. He is a commercial pilot and flight instructor, and is accredited to do almost any kind of airwork in almost any type of aircraft.

Mr. Purinton currently operates Shasta Aviation at Sky Ranch Airport just South of Redding, California. In all of his experience he has observed only one phenomenon that he could not rationalise as either natural or man-made.

On a quiet summer afternoon in the early 1950s (perhaps 1952) Leo was on the ground at Montague airport a few miles North West of Mt. Shasta and not far from the California-Oregon border. Up in the air he noticed what he thought was a page of a newspaper caught in a thermal, but it wasn't a day for "dust devil"-type air currents, and there was no ground wind at all. The "paper", furthermore, was just standing there wobbling or rocking slightly, neither descending nor ascending.

The device remained relatively stationary as Leo Purinton looked more closely and intently. The thing appeared to be of more substantial construction than a newspaper page. Suddenly it shot westward for a few miles at sonic speed and stopped again to hover near the town of Yreka.

It must have been relatively large, he said, but since he is used to observing airborne objects Mr. Purinton is quite cautious about estimating the size, speed and distances involved.

After hovering about 20 seconds at Yreka it shot back until near to its original position, stopped there for only a few seconds, and then sped off to the North at great speed.

The entire sighting lasted only a minute or so. When first seen, the object was at an elevation of about 80°, i.e. almost overhead. It was darker than the clear blue sky. There was no noise. When it moved the acceleration and deceleration seemed instant. There was no vapour trail and it moved so fast that Leo could not tell (or remember) if it rocked or wobbled when in flight.

There was no one nearby to share the sighting, and no others with whom he discussed it later had seen it.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

The lights of 1905

Sir,—With reference to Roger Sandell's fascinating piece of research on UFOs in Wales in 1905 (FSR, July/August 1971), I am sure that readers will like to see the following curious item of supporting evidence placed on record in our pages.

My grandfather, William Creighton, a Scottish farmer from Lockerbie, in the County of Dumfries, was, as I well remember him, a man who (considering his limited background and education) had a marked sense of curiosity about the stranger or, as we might term it, the "Fortean" side of life. When he passed on at a very ripe age (as did my own father after him) he left behind two scrap-albums which cover the opening years of the XXth century and, in particular, contain much valuable newspaper material on the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905.

But, among the more "Fortean" elements in these albums, which are now among my treasured possessions, I find there is a press-clipping from the London evening paper *The Star* with the text of a piece of doggerel. There is a little uncertainty as to the precise date of the clipping, as my grandfather had not developed that sharp eye for dates and sources which characterises the readers of FSR. But from its place in the album it is certain that the date of the clipping falls around December 1904 or January/February 1905—in other words just the right time for the beginning of the burst of Welsh phenomena turned up by Mr. Sandell in his browsings in the Newspaper Department of the British Museum. (The "poem" has its domestic political touch which will amuse many, and which seems to suggest that, in at least one respect, things have not changed much since 1905!)

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED

There are lights in the mountains of
 Wales
With a ghostly importance invested,
Though I see the phenomenon fails
When the scientist's handy to test it.
There are lights o'er the city of Leeds
Which appear to be comets in training,
And even the scoffer concedes
That they need a great deal of
 explaining.

There are lights at the Motor-car Show
O'er Olympia nightly arising.
The Cockneys attribute the glow
To smart, up-to-date advertising.
But the light that has failed, be it said,
Though 'twould meet with a welcome
 most hearty,
Is the one that some radiance would
 shed
On the plans of the Liberal Party!

But the poem seems to indicate quite clearly that there were also local "UFO flaps" going on at the same time over both Leeds and London, and that, as usual, the standard "explanations" were forthcoming. It will be interesting indeed if any of our readers can dig up any further material about those comets over Leeds, and the UFOs engaged in industrial espionage at the Motor Show at Olympia.

For the benefit of overseas and foreign readers I should perhaps add that Olympia is in the Hammersmith district of south-west London.

Finally, I must say that what surprises me most about this poetic effusion is not the suggestion that there were UFOs in 1905 over Wales, Yorkshire and London (for by now one has come to take all this for granted), but that the Motor Show at Olympia dates so far back as 1905!

Gordon Creighton
21/11/1971

Monsters and UFOs

Dear Sir,—I find no difficulty in believing in the Loch Ness Monster —or rather Monsters, because there must be a breeding herd. Only the very gullible could believe there is nothing in all that long and vast array of impressive testimony and evidence. Anyone who has read F. W. Holiday's *The Great Orm of Loch Ness* (easily the best book on the subject) knows just how formidable that evidence is. Yet now we have Mr. Holiday himself (September/October 1971 issue) putting the case for a paranormal Monster. And a very impressive case it is, based as I understand it on (1) the occasional apparent fluidity of the Monster's shape, (2) its incredible speed at times, and extraordinary manoeuvrability, but most of all (3) its sheer persistent bloody-minded elusiveness, and refusal to be pinned down. I think it reasonable to conclude that a supernatural factor is operating, but this does not mean that the Monster itself is necessarily supernatural. It seems to me possible that we have here a fully-fashioned, copper-bottomed supernatural jinx, mischievously frustrating every attempt at identification. Bricks and mortar houses, steel and plastic aircraft, flesh and blood men and women, can be "jinxed". We cannot explain it, but we know it happens, in all kinds of ways.

This does not meet objections (1) and (2) above. There *could* be naturalistic explanations here, I suppose. In fact, whichever way you look at it, there is a puzzle here so bizarre, and perhaps so far-reaching in its implications, that the mind reels. The parallel which Mr. Holiday draws between UFOs and the LNM is astonishing, but one cannot lightly dismiss the idea. "Are monsters the UFOs' Achilles Heel?" he asks. And I would ask: "Has the Loch Ness Monster perhaps a 'familiar'?"

Yours sincerely,
Peter Jackson,
5 Walsingham Road, New Addington,
Croydon, Surrey.
December 22, 1971.

A case of "elf-burn"?

Dear Sir,—Regarding the manifestation in your current [September/October '71] issue (*The Humanoid At Kinnula*) in which the witness seized an entity and was badly burned—it is worth remarking that there is an expression in Icelandic which may have a bearing on this: *álfabruni* (elf-burn). Nowadays it seems to be used to describe a form of skin disease in animals.

This reference is in *Myth And Religion Of The North* by E. O. G. Turville-Petre (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1964).

Professor Turville-Petre also remarks: "It is an old and widespread belief that elves cause illnesses and old English terminology is rich in expressions which show this."

Researchers with a taste for etymology may care to unearth some of these terms and lay them beside some of the modern "burning" reports.

Yours faithfully,
F. W. Holiday,
Glan - yr - Afon, Hayscastle Cross,
Haverfordwest, Pembs.
December 2, 1971.

Hoax exposed

Dear Sir,—May I refer to the World Round-up columns of the September/October 1971 issue of FSR and in particular to "Sights in the Hampshire skies"?

After exhaustive research into these reports, it seems that the letters concerning "G. Barnes" and "S. Pink" are hoaxes.

Regarding Mr. P. Martin, Peters-

field: I made the same journey as he did, consulted Ordnance Survey maps of the area, checked the running time of the train and took notes of the journey. I called at his address where I explained to his father who I was, and left a questionnaire and a stamped addressed envelope with him.

I have written to him at least twice reminding him of my visit, but I have heard nothing. So one can draw one's own conclusions from that.

Further to the G. Barnes and S. Pink sightings, your correspondent I. M. Argent seems to have missed another letter claiming to support these two, and when I visited this claimant's address, which had a false name in the letter, I found out that the person who lives there is an important official of the City of Portsmouth.

I have seen the original letters that were sent to the Portsmouth *Evening News*, and taken at face value they seemed quite genuine, although after checking out the addresses they were proved to be false.

Any further discussions on these sightings will be only too welcome as I would like to meet "G. Barnes" and "Sarah Pink".

Yours faithfully,
M. J. Green,
23 Jubilee Avenue, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, Hants.
November 30, 1971.

A famous UFO shape

Dear Sir,—I have just read FSR Special Issue No. 3, *UFO Percipients*, and feel I should draw your attention to the similarity between the object seen by Doctor "X" and the UFOs photographed over Rouen, France (March 1954) and over McMinnville, Oregon (May 11, 1950), which appear in the Lore and Deneault book, *Mysteries of the Skies* (facing page 64).

Yours faithfully,
K. Clifford,
8 Westminster Crescent, Hebburn-on-Tyne, Co. Durham.
December 20, 1971.

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

ENGLAND

Cigar mystery

Was it the last item of the previous report that made the columns of the *Daily Express* on September 4, 1971?

"FLYING CIGAR MYSTERY

"Crowds of sightseers watched a mystery flying object for half an hour at Great Barr, Birmingham, last night.

"Police switchboards were jammed as callers told of the green, L-shaped object, which changed to a cigar shape before disappearing."

Astronomer's sightings

The Stoke-on-Trent *Evening Sentinel* of September 2, 1971, carried the following item—

"An amateur astronomer has joined the growing band of people who claim they have seen UFOs over North Staffordshire.

"John Hancock, aged 21, of 122 Ashford Street, Shelton, made detailed notes of two unidentified flying objects in Weston Coyney last night.

"One of the sightings, he said, was cylindrical in shape with a row of coloured lights. A middle light was green and it was flanked by red and white lights.

"John's father, 44-years-old Mr. Norman Hancock, of the same address, said today: 'We are deadly serious about these sightings. I was with John and I can verify what he saw. I must say I was rather shaken by it all.' "

Credit: **Pat Pitts,** Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Triangular UFO near Stoke

Again from the *Evening Sentinel*, the September 4, 1971, issue—

"Unidentified flying objects of various colours, shapes and sizes have apparently had the Potteries under observation this week . . .

"There has been a spate of phone callers reporting the things to us. Some have remained coyly anonymous, for fear of neighbours' ridicule. Others have almost defiantly stated names and addresses.

"One Bucknall schoolboy came to the *Sentinel* office and made a formal declaration: 'On September 1, I, William Boyd, saw a UFO going towards Stoke. It was going off and on and the shape was like a triangle. The colour was red.'

"Thank you, William, for being concise, explicit and so matter of fact about an occurrence which appears to put so many adults into an argumentative tizzy."

Credit: **Pat Pitts** of Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Low-level Stourbridge UFO

From the *County Express* (Worcestershire) of December 17, 1971, comes the following report—

"A brilliant orange UFO flashed across the sky over Stourbridge last weekend and 'scared the daylights' out of engineering chargehand Thomas Robinson as he was on his way to work.

"Mr. Robinson (64), of 36 Church Avenue, Amblecote, claimed that the object shot over the town at enormously high speed. 'It was so low that I thought it would knock the tops off the multi-storey flats by the ring road,' he added.

"The object made its appearance at 7.25 a.m. on Saturday as Mr. Robinson was walking along Enville Street on his way to the factory of Westwood Dawes and Co., Ltd.

"According to Mr. Robinson the object was a very bright orange and had a fiery tail like a comet. It moved so fast that he could not determine its shape.

"It produced a sizzling hissing sound as it passed by.

" 'It took me completely by surprise,' said Mr. Robinson. 'I have never seen anything like it before. I have certainly never seen anything move so fast. It frightened me, I don't mind admitting.'

"The object was not a shooting star, said Mr. Robinson. 'I have seen many shooting stars, both here and abroad, and this was completely different' he added.

"He emphatically rejects the suggestion that it could have been an aircraft. 'It was moving far too fast,' he said."

Credit: **John C. Tate** of Halesowen.

Newspaper cuttings

We have received a large number of newspaper items from readers over the last few months, and we are grateful for them. We hope to be able to deal with them, one way or another, in future issues of our publications. Meanwhile, please continue sending in any reports you come across—EDITOR.

Midland "flaplet"

The following extract comes from the *Express and Star* (Dudley and N. Worcs. Edition) for September 3, 1971—

"The mystery of strange sightings in the night sky deepens. More people in various parts of the district have reported sightings of unidentified flying objects.

"Mr. M. Robson (26), of Spring Parklands, Dudley, saw an object, glowing orange, hovering over the Kingswinford area.

" 'It hovered for about ten minutes, then glowed brightly, and accelerated at terrific speed to the north-east,' said Mr. Robson, an electrical technician. 'It was definitely not a plane. It glowed bright orange all over and was too low for a planet.'

"And more people today claimed to have seen unidentified flying objects in the sky over the Penn district of Wolverhampton.

"This brings the number of people who claim to have seen the UFOs on Wednesday night to about 30.

"Mrs. Rita Foreman, of Wheathill Close, Penn, said she, too, had seen a 'pulsating, star-like object' exactly like the one reported by a group of young people near Penn Common. She said the object was flashing regularly.

"Michael Griffiths, aged 11, of Merridale Street West, said that he and eight of his friends had seen four unusual bright lights travelling towards Wolverhampton town centre . . .

"And whatever it was flying over Great Barr last night it seems to have been a highly original line in UFOs.

"Miss Lynette James (17), of Cardington Avenue, said: 'This was a strange looking L-shaped object mostly green with red at the ends. Then as I watched, it changed into a flat long object which became white in the middle and glowed even redder at the ends. Its next change was into a flat sort of shape.'

"An Oldbury woman rang the police after seeing a dark cigar-shaped UFO."

Credit: **S. L. Meredith** of Dudley.

NORWAY

UFO and blue light-beam

Here is another report, translated from *Norsk UFO-Tidsskrift*, which is published by the Norwegian UFO Societies, and sent to FSR by Richard Farrow—

" 'It was a very beautiful sight,' said Gunnar Holm about the strange incident he was exposed to on February 24, 1969. That evening he had been lying under his car, working on it: the time was 21.25, and the place was Westengen, Råholt in Eidsvoll.

"When he crawled out from under the car he noticed an object, which was stationary, high up in the sky. He told *Norges UFO-Informasjön*, Oslo, that a blue beam of light, 'so intense that it almost hurt my eyes,' shot out from a round opening in the bottom of the object. The beam went right down to the hill without any noticeable diffusion of the light. The object was round, and with grey and light blue colouring underneath. On the top there was a dome with 4-5 'windows' visible. Part of the object was surrounded by a greyish corona.

"Holm estimated its height above the hill as 4 kilometres, and the apparent size of the object as twice the diameter of the moon—taken between forefinger and thumb held at arm's length. He thinks that it was visible for about 10 seconds before it vanished. The weather was cold with a perfectly clear sky."

Policeman and Bergen UFO

The following item is taken from *Vi Meun:* translation by **Richard Farrow**—

"Police constable Dag Hundvin had an unusual experience early in the winter of 1957, just after the Russians had sent up their Sputnik 1. Mr. Hundvin narrated the incident thus:

" 'It was at daybreak, about sevenish. I had been on the beat in the town centre and had arrived at the tram kiosk opposite the main post office in Bergen. I glanced up at the clock over the post office and just then noticed something or other out of the corner of my eye. At that moment I was facing northwards along Strandgaten and saw something coming in over the fjord at a good speed. It came nearer, appearing to increase in size, then passed above me at a height of 40-50 metres and I saw the lower half partly from the side.

" 'The thing was at least five metres long, travelling fast, but probably not as fast as a jet, and it gave a peaceful impression. There was not a sound to be heard other than, perhaps, a weak 'swish.' The shape was like an egg cut long ways. It appeared that the rear part was emitting bursts of blue flame.

" 'It had rained and was still damp that morning, and just as the thing passed above the trolley-bus wires I noticed light reflected in the wet cables. Suddenly it broke away, gained height along Ullrikken, and sort of dived over the top and disappeared. The sighting had not lasted more than 15 seconds. It manoeuvred so perfectly naturally over the town, following the built-up area in a natural valley, and had obviously intended to follow along the valley when it noticed the mountain. Then it suddenly broke away and swung over the top.

" 'I realised I had seen something very unusual and wondered if there were any other witnesses in the vicinity who had seen the same thing. I noticed a man approaching, probably a baker or someone like that who had to be at work especially early. He was smoking and going with his eyes fixed a couple of paces in front of him. He would never have noticed that silent object and I could not see anyone else around.

" 'I went straight back to the police station and told my colleagues what I had seen. They roared with laughter. The same day there was a report in the *Bergens Tidende* which helped me a lot: '*Mystery glowing object made topographical flying exercises over Hardanger* in the early hours of the morning today. The object was seen by many reliable people. The air force has no idea what it was.*' The object was reportedly seen a few minutes after my observation."

---

* Hardanger lies about 130 miles to the east of Bergen—R.F.

New Year UFO formation

The following account, from the newspaper *Arbeiderbladet* of January 3, 1972, was sent to us by our correspondent **Richard Farrow,** who also provided the translation—

"Aircraft captain Oddmund Karlsen saw them. People in the control tower at Bergen saw them. Passengers on Karlsen's plane saw them. Hundreds of people on their way home from the New Year's Eve celebrations saw them over the whole of South Norway. Reports came from Eidsvoll, Bergen, Moss, Oslo, Kristiansand, and many other places. The Ministry of Defence also received a mass of reports about *them.* About what? About the UFOs—Unidentified Flying Objects—which crossed southern Norway between 04.15 and 04.30 on New Year's Day. No one knows what they are or where they come from. Are they from Earth, or are they objects from the universe?

"Aircraft captain Oddmund Karlsen of Braathens SAFE (the name of an airline—R.F.) is certainly the man who was nearest to them that night—about 10,000 feet nearer than people on the ground.

" 'I was on the way from Las Palmas to Bergen with 134 passengers. Just before the approach to Bergen I noticed them. I saw seven illuminated objects. Three of them were brighter than the rest, an intensely white light. For a moment I thought that they were jet fighters, but shortly afterwards I realised that I was wrong. These objects went much higher, between 70,000 and 100,000 feet above the ground, about the same height at which the well-known U2 planes fly. These were not planes—a plane gives out a contrail. The objects had a trail like a light ray keeping a constant distance from the objects. The objects flew in a *vee* formation. They maintained a high speed, about twice the speed of sound. Six flew in the front and one at the rear.'

" 'What did the objects look like?'

" 'I could not see anything other than the light—they appeared to be round objects.'

" 'Have you any theories or explanations for what you saw?'

" 'I do not know of any explanation. They can't have been satellites. They must have been very large.'

" 'Do you believe in UFOs as flying objects sent from other planets with intelligent life?'

" 'Pooh. I think that there is definitely a natural explanation.'

* * *

"No one that *Arbeiderbladet* has contacted believes in extraterrestrial objects, least of all the Defence Ministry. A MOD spokesman stated: 'It was no known military object; for the time being we have no explanation for the phenomenon.'

" 'Will an explanation be forthcoming?'

" 'We have received twenty reports,' advised the MOD spokesman, 'they will be dealt with as considered appropriate.'

" 'There are agreements in the reports which are quite striking. The total number of UFOs, the times, shape and colours agree completely, although the reports come from places all over South Norway.'

" 'Nevertheless, a couple of the reports indicate that the New Year's Eve celebrations were in full swing.'*

" 'Have the Defence Ministry ever seen UFOs?'

" 'I am not in a position to express myself on that,' answered the spokesman.

* * *

"Eilert Eilertsen was among those who said: 'I sat in Karlsen's plane; there were two of us who looked out of the window and saw them. We thought they were planes but they had such strange trails—never seen anything like it.'

"The objects, which surprised the whole of South Norway, popped up north-west of Bergen and flew over the country in a southerly direction. We are waiting excitedly for reports from abroad.

"One of the reports came from a 24-year-old man from Lundamo. Between 04.15 and 04.30 he was in his car between Hovin and Stören. At first he thought it was a jet plane but had to change his opinion when he saw that there were no wings on these round things. Then they passed right over the place and looked like a group of several illuminated objects which travelled at the same speed as a jet plane.

"Then these lights disappeared and he noticed a stationary light point far away in the same direction that the others had come from. Suddenly 'the point' made a few large turns, disappeared in some scattered cloud, came out again, made more turns and disappeared into the clouds again. The whole observation lasted about five minutes."

* * *

* *Does this imply that the celebrations also went on on the flight deck of Captain Karlsen's airliner with the lives of* 134 *passengers at stake? There leaps to mind a comment by a spokesman of our own Ministry of Defence when questioned by a newspaper reporter about a UFO report from South East London on August* 17, 1967: "*We have not had many reports of UFOs, but we usually get them in the holiday season, or at weekends, after the pubs close.*" (*See* The 'UFOs caused by Drink' Department *in FSR for March/April* 1968)—EDITOR.†

SPAIN

Yellow object over Palencia

The following is an item which appeared in the Spanish daily morning newspaper *ABC*, on Thursday, September 2, 1971:

"Palencia, 1st September. An object letting off a vivid yellow and orange rainbow-type light was seen in the sky for approximately five minutes, near the township of Tariego, at five o'clock in the morning.

"The unidentified object was seen by a railroad employee at Venta de Baños, who further affirms that the object remained still and was about two or three kilometres distance away."

Translator's notes: It doesn't say whether the "two or three kilometre's distance away" means straight upwards in the sky, obliquely upwards, or more towards the horizon.

Unfortunately, I do not have to hand a good atlas of Spain, but the approximate distance from the capital city, Zamora, of the province of Zamora, to the capital city, Palencia, of the province of Palencia, is 125 kilometres, as the crow flies; however, I do not know how far the small township of Tariego is from the other small township of Nuez (see the previous item from *YA*).

Credit: **Sr. R-B. Guérard y Holmes,** of Madrid, who also kindly provided the translation.

Landing in Zamora

The following text is a translation of an article which appeared in the Spanish daily newspaper *YA*, on August 26, 1971, under its headline: FLYING SAUCER SEEN FROM A DISTANCE OF TWO METRES

"A taxi-cab driver from Zamora (Spain), who claims to have sighted the disc, also affirms that the strange object took off from the ground shortly afterwards, leaving a bright yellowness on the highway where it had landed. Other persons also claim to have seen the bright object pass overhead."

Now follows the news agency report:

"ZAMORA, 25th August (Cifra). A resident of the township of Nuez, which belongs to the judicial district of Trabazos, affirms that he saw a flying saucer last night when he was driving an automobile near the above-mentioned township of Nuez.

"Braulio Casas Rodriguez, 34 years of age, married and a taxi-cab driver by profession, claims that when he was driving alone in his taxi, heading towards the small town of San Pedro de las Herrerías, and approximately one kilometre's distance from Nuez, he noticed that a circular object measuring one-and-a-half metres in diameter, emitting an intense yellow-coloured light, that had landed on the highway approximately two metres distance from his taxi cab. The automobile engine stopped without his having intervened, and a few minutes later the strange object took off, losing itself to view behind a clump of trees in a nearby field, all the while letting off an intense yellow-coloured brightness which also stained the spot on the highway where, momentarily, it had paused.

"Other residents of this same locality also declare having seen the brilliant object as it passed just a few metres over the tops of the trees."

N.B.: *Cifra* is the news agency reporting this story on wire. Zamora is a Spanish province.

Credit: **Sr. R-B. Guérard y Holmes** of Madrid to whom we are indebted for the translation.

---

† STOP PRESS NOTE . . .

Mr. S-O. Fredrickson writes that GICOFF enquiries have shown that the lights were caused by the disintegration of the shell of Soviet rocket *Kosmos* 453 (launched 19.10.71).

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Artwork bv Terence Collins

ESSENTIAL READING

Colin Bord

ONE of the current internecine squabbles among UFO researchers revolves around the question: Should Fortean and paraphysical phenomena be considered as having some value in our efforts to solve the UFO problem? While the advocates of this approach point out that UFOs are but one of the many enigmas with which we are surrounded, and may in fact be only part of a far greater mystery, the opponents feel, to quote from a recent BUFORA journal, "there are enough 'fringe' phenomena already classified or included under the UFO umbrella . . . which have no proven *direct* connection with UFOs." The author's italics for the word "direct" brought home to me the tenor of his thinking. Here was the traditional scientific approach to the problem, logical and exact, from one solid step to another solid step, which is of course the only recognised way with which to approach any problem, and the method we are all taught to use throughout our early years of training.

But there is another type of thought pattern that can be used, not one opposed to logic, but complementary to it. This mode is used instinctively by those who feel that the Fortean and paraphysical are well worth considering. It is the thought style of the inventor and the originator, the individual who, to the envy of his fellows, appears to be able to pluck a cohesive coherent idea from what had seemed to be trackless confusion. This approach has been critically examined and defined, and termed "lateral thinking", by Edward de Bono, in his recent book *The Use of Lateral Thinking* (pub. Jonathan Cape). Traditional logical thinking he has termed "vertical thinking," and likens it to using building blocks, each block resting firmly and squarely on the block below it, whereas in lateral thinking, the blocks are scattered around and the ensuing pattern can have a multiplicity of directions of approach, some of greater value than others.

Lateral thinking is more concerned with possibilities than with certainty, and with the generation of new ideas, rather than the refinement of old ones, and so this book should be essential reading for every student of UFO phenomena. Indeed, sentences and paragraphs leap from the page as one reads: it could well have been written with the present state of UFO research in mind. Thus we read of "dominant ideas" which can exert a "powerful organising influence on the way a person thinks and approaches a problem". Or again I quote, "It is disturbing to think how many situations are incompletely understood because attempts at exploration persist in using well-tried familiar patterns which ought themselves to be re-examined."

Although this is not a book about UFOs, in another sense it is very much concerned with them. Not only will it help us to question our mental approach to the problem, but it shows us how to develop and use other patterns of thinking, which may pay greater dividends when applied to the UFO enigma.

I end with a quote from the book that might suitably be printed on thick card and sent to every UFO researcher. "It is not possible to dig a hole in a different place by digging the same hole deeper. Logic is the tool that is used to dig holes deeper and bigger, to make them altogether better holes. But if the hole is in the wrong place, then no amount of improvement is going to put it in the right place. No matter how obvious this may seem to every digger, it is still easier to go on digging in the same hole than to start all over again in a new place. Vertical thinking is digging the same hole deeper; lateral thinking is trying again elsewhere."

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